

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXII.]

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MARRIAGES.

On 28th October, at Shanghai, ARTHUR D. BRENT of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, eldest son of ARTHUR BRENT, formerly of Yokohama, to EVELYN MAUD, second daughter of Mr. CHARLES CHALLIS of Philbeach Gardens, S.W.

On 29th October, at Shanghai, ALFRED EDWIN ROGGERSS of Shanghai, to ADA ELLISTON of Ipswich, Suffolk.

On 30th October, at Shanghai, FANNY ABRAMO to GEORGE COLLINWOOD.

On 23rd September, at Croydon, FREDERICK SOUTHEY, A. M. Inst., C. E., A. A. (Oxon), son of THOS. S. SOUTHEY, Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, to ELLA MURIEL LATHAM.

On 1st November, at Shanghai, WILLIAM PAGET LAMBE to IDA MARY, only daughter of W. THURLOW LAY, Commissioner, Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs Service.

On 4th November, at Shanghai, L. B. L. PE to EMILIA AUGUSTA, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. D'AQUINO.

DEATHS.

On 27th October, at Shanghai, MURIEL ADELE MARTHE PERCEBOIS, beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. PERCEBOIS, aged 12 years and 3 months.

On 7th November, at the Government Civil Hospital, J. H. GRINDROD, of Iloilo, Philippine Islands.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail of October 10th arrived, per the ss. *Prinz Regent Luitpold*, on Wednesday, the 8th inst.; and the French Mail of Oct. 13th is due to arrive, per the ss. *Tonkin*, some time to-day.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Fujiyama showed new snow on the 5th ultimo.

Chinese prophets in the north foretell a severe winter.

Dengue fever was reported to be prevalent at Foochow recently.

The Australasians in Shanghai are getting up a Rugby Football Club.

The *Mainichi* says the Japanese Government is placing two shallow-draught gunboats in the Yangtze.

The British steamer *Thomas Turnbull*, 1,213 tons net, built at Whitby in 1880, has been sold to a Hokkaido merchant.

Garrison Order No. 596 seems rather hard on our soldiers. It says that voluntary bathing will be discontinued from Nov. 7th.

The *Kobe Herald* says that, according to the *Chuo*, the organisation of the Japanese Submarine Squadron has now been completed.

Some of the missionaries in Corea are reported to be carrying on an anti-Japanese propaganda. They will, no doubt, get the snubbing they deserve.

The Shanghai station of the German-Dutch Telegraph Co., Ltd., which is prepared to accept messages for all parts of the world, was to be opened for business on November 1st.

There is an official proposal to screen the Imperial Chairs with "torpedo-netting" during their journeys to and from the Summer Palace, this to save the occupants from hand thrown bombs.

The report of the Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd., for the season ending 31st July last, shows a credit balance in profit and loss account of Tls. 2,724, which the directors propose to carry forward.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says that a telegram was sent on Nov. 2 to Mr. de Rijke, on behalf of the Chinese Government, inviting him to come out at once to take charge of the Huangpu Conservancy operations.

In view of the continuance of perfect order throughout Pechili, the Powers appear to have agreed to withdraw all their troops next March. One moral to be drawn from this is that the Chinese can completely stop disorders when it seems to be to their interest to do so.

The Empress Dowager has issued her annual decree forbidding excessive expenditure on her birthday celebrations. It is like the little English girl's speech: "To-morrow is my birthday, but mother says I ought not to tell you lest you should think I wish for presents."

A telegram to the *N. C. Daily News* says—The Russian cruiser *Bogatyr*, with the Commissioners who are to arrange for the repatriation of Russian prisoners of war, arrived at Nagasaki on Oct. 29. Salutes were exchanged with the Japanese *Katsuragi*. The *Bogatyr* returned to Vladivostok on the 31st.

Owing to satisfactory news from the Weihai-wei gold mine the directors have decided to recommence crushing operations towards the end of January or the beginning of February. The directors have decided to call up one dollar on the shares, payable at the end of January, in order to restart the machinery.

British Malaya consumes 656,000 gallons of beer and ale annually. Of these 421,000 gallons are made in Germany.

Tientsin papers report that Mr. Chang Chien is starting a new company to run steamers on the Yangtze, with a capital of Tls. 1,000,000; and that Mr. Wu Jimpah's tannery at Tientsin is now prepared to execute orders, in conjunction with his woollen mill, for all kinds of military and school equipments.

The Board of Punishment has memorialised the Throne to order all the yamens to settle all cases forthwith and not refer them to the Board first, involving sometimes a delay of many months. This has been granted. Does this mean that the Throne relinquishes its recently claimed prerogative in the case of capital punishment?

Japanese carpets, which are held in high favour amongst foreigners in Japan are being put on the China market, and bid fair to rival the Tientsin rug. They are made in wool, cotton, jute, or hemp in any design and shape; and being of thick pile are very warm and durable. There are only two factories of note in Japan, and they have executed several orders for the foreign Legations there.

Taotai Jeme Tien-yu (Chan Tien-yu), a graduate of Yale University, Sheffield Scientific Department, A.M.I.C.E., London, and Superintending Engineer of the Peking-Changchiakou (Kalgan) Railway, now building, has been appointed by the Shantung as Special Adviser on Railway matters to that Board. Mr. Jeme Tien-yu is a member of the Chinese Educational Mission to the U. S. in 1872 and well qualified for his new post.

A correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, describing the Chinese Army Manœuvres, somewhat tones down previous reports. He says there was not enough cavalry to be important, and that some of the tactics were unintelligible to foreign experts. Equipments were good, but artillery too much diversified, four different kinds of ammunition being required. Discipline and training seemed good. It was still held that the morale in warfare would be bad.

How many persons, asks a contributor to a contemporary, have troubled to inquire the meaning of the red band which invariably runs down the centre of a Chinese envelope? The Chinese mourning being white, that colour is regarded as unlucky, and the white envelope is accordingly not only barred with red but lined with the same, which is a colour associated with particularly good fortune. This may be a wrinkle for those who have correspondence with Chinese not to use white paper.

Since the cancellation of the Hankow-Canton concession to America every province is, of course, working to cancel all foreign railway concessions and build the lines themselves. Just how easy it is to raise money from domestic sources for this purpose and build their own lines is shown by the necessity to raise a foreign loan in this very instance. Could the Chinese have their own way and cancel the remaining projected lines the net result would be no railways at all. The *Jih Jih* decides that a great international conference will be inevitable in the spring as all the Powers are fighting to retain their concessions.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 4th November).

One of the most apparent signs of a returning feeling of self-consciousness of the Chinese nation is to be found in the popular desire to get rid of the engagements into which the state has entered with regard to the construction of railways through the Empire. The redeeming part of the agitation is that unlike the position only a few years ago the agitation is not directed against the railways, but against their employment of foreign capital, and its inevitable result, their passing for a term of years under foreign control. Were the agitation altogether genuine it would mark a wholesome change for the better in the body politic, but as it stands it is only too plain that it is fundamentally but a recrudescence of the old exclusive policy which within the last century was rapidly bringing on the destruction of the Chinese Empire. Unpleasant experience has shown to the more enlightened of the rulers of China that an obstinate adherence to antiquated ways, while the rest of the world was changing, was rapidly beginning to undermine the very foundations of empire. The last serious attempt to return to exclusiveness, the Boxer troubles of 1900, instigated as they were by the then government of the state, almost ended in the final destruction of an empire which for upwards of two thousand years had kept alive the traditions of civilisation in the East of Asia. The chief actors in that movement, unsupported as they found themselves to be by the better informed classes through the country, had to take refuge in flight, and for a time the old Empire was paralysed. Fortunately the great Viceroys, better counselled than Peking, held aloof; with the result that with an infusion of new blood the Peking Government was restored to the capital. Of course the salvation of the Empire has been due to the fact that the interests of certain of the Great Powers, notably Great Britain and the United States, are closely bound up with the independence of China, and towards the attainment of this end, and to prevent the division of Eastern Asia amongst a crowd of hungry European speculators, the best efforts of the diplomacy of the well-affected states has been directed.

From the beginning the British Government has been pressing on China the necessity, as a matter of life or death, of improving her internal communications as the first step towards restoring her national position. The events of 1900 brought this fact home to China herself. Great Britain had already induced China to open a small section of state railways in Chili, and the advantage of the better means of communication at once became evident to the people of the district, who from being in opposition became ardent supporters of the line. But the Government of the day was steadily set on excluding these new-fangled ideas; and when Russia offered her sympathies, and engaged to dispose of these ideas for ever, did China but give her a free hand in one or two little matters which would cost China nothing, she explained, it blindly assented. Russia did not, it is true, fulfil her promise of extinguishing the national desire for reform, but she got meanwhile so firm a grip on Manchuria, and North China, that when Peking gently reminded her of the promise, her only reply was the annexation in form as well as deed of the entire of Manchuria, from the Amur to the extremity of Liaotung. Fortunately for China her trusted advisers, Yuluh, Li Pingheng,

and the pretended eunuch Li; not to speak of her arch-traitor Li Hungchang went too far, and Russia had, very much against her will, to pretend common action with the other Powers. The result was that mainly through the action of England and the United States China was momentarily saved, and the Imperial Government restored in Peking. Russia, foiled in her previous scheme of aiding China to commit political suicide, now proceeded to make herself at home in Manchuria and, from her base there, to threaten Japan in Corea; with the ulterior object of rendering helpless Japan, now the only serious obstacle in the way of her attaining the mastership of the entire of the northern Pacific. The result is historical. But the same party that was instrumental in inducing China to put her head in the lion's mouth, from which she was only extricated by external assistance and almost miraculously, is, although scotched, by no means extinct, and its latest effort is to try and stir up the masses of China to prevent the building of railways. This it has learnt cannot be done by direct measures, the nation as a whole having learnt practically the benefit of the rapid and easy method of inter-communication afforded by the iron road.

Now it is undoubtedly true that in placing herself unreservedly in Russian hands with regard to the Manchurian Railway, China brought herself to the very verge of extinction, but the danger was of China's own creation. China had been well warned by her well-wishers of the jeopardy of the game that she was seeking to play, but her leaders preferred to take the bit between their teeth and rush with closed eyes into destruction. It was not Chinese wisdom nor Chinese circumspection that saved her, but the fact that Japan and England had vast interests in the Far East, and that these interests included the integrity of China, and for this end the advance of China to a position where she would be able to walk independent of outside aid. We do not propose to exhibit this as an effect of magnanimity, disguised or otherwise. The inception of the policy doubtless proceeded from a sense of justice, but in international, even more than in commercial policy, the old maxim that honesty is the best policy has its surest justification. This is shown pretty well on some of the railways in China, and it is not impossible that a contrary idea may have some effect in bringing about the present movement. It is true that Russia was the instigator of the line from Peking to Hankow, and that at her request, which at the time when it was made meant her command, the construction of the line was nominally given over to a Belgian Syndicate; Belgian indeed in name, but except that its patron Russia had kindly permitted Belgium to do the financing at her own risk, in all other respects Russian. Doubtless Russia intended to use the Luhan Railway as she had used the Manchurian line as an aid to her military projects on China, but this immediate danger is past, and does not seem likely to be revived. At all events, save that the patronage of Russia, while it lasted, has had its not unusual effect of causing the construction of the line to be inefficient, and that its opening is in consequence likely to be indefinitely postponed, China under present conditions does not seem to be in any immediate danger. Much the same may be said of the German line in Shantung; but with this partial exception China now enjoys without cost to herself the initiation of a system of trunk railways from which even already she is beginning to earn a substantial increase of her revenue.

Turning to the other side, is China in a position to manage, much less to construct, her railroads without outside assistance? On the Chili Railway, where everything has been done to assist the native authorities in the management of the line, it was not till the most extreme pressure had been applied that the slightest check could be imposed on receipts and expenditure; which otherwise would have been left to take care of themselves in the manner customary in official quarters throughout China. Even with the assistance of a foreign Traffic Manager, carefully subordinated to a board of Imperial Commissioners, the management of the line is an example of general inefficiency, and no attempt has been made to develop the enormous possibilities of the line, more especially in the way of goods traffic. With the usual propensity of the Government to exact the very uttermost from its own subjects, the Likin levies have been carefully looked after, and the traffic to and from the stations is carefully fleeced at the expense of the general revenue. Down in Shanghai where the short railway to Woosung has been constructed and managed without outside interference, the state of affairs is still worse. No attempt to furnish accounts here has ever been made, so that the takings of the line, except to the board of management, are kept a mystery; it is, however, understood that they scarcely suffice to cover running expenses, and this is quite understandable at a glance to anyone accustomed to the most elementary principles of railway management. Lest there should be any questions asked in the case of its going through the Foreign Settlements, the line was carefully kept outside the limits, and ends in a *cul de sac*, which, for the same reason, is not permitted to connect with the Settlement streets. At Woosung the same rule obtains, and there is no station and no accommodation for passengers or cargo. In the old days when the affair was run by a private company, double the number of trains were run, and everything done to attract traffic, more especially the market traffic from Woosung. Now this is jealously excluded, so that the line is scarcely used either by natives or foreigners. On the whole it has been a direct benefit to China that she has been hitherto compelled to go to the foreigner for the construction and control, so far as the latter has gone, of her railways. China has been undoubtedly progressing, and has been slowly learning better methods of administration, but the day when she will be in a position to undertake the construction and control of her railways is still far in the distance and, judging from recent appointments, cannot yet be said to be on the road to begin.

THE MURDER OF MISSIONARIES.

(Daily Press 6th November).

The shocking affair reported at Linchow on the North River, seems to call for comment, yet the subject of missionaries and mission work in China is such a thorny one that it is a task of delicacy to refer to it, and at the same time to avoid transgressing some article of faith, canon of good taste, or rule of debate. The latest sad incident, involving the cruel murder of women and children, illustrates one side of the matter, one drawback of the movement; but to treat only of that is to ignore the very genuine secular usefulness of these embarrassing invaders of China, their educational and medical work. The long list of feminine and juvenile martyrs, however, of which the additions of this latest catastrophe

represent but a small fraction, must renew in many minds the doubt, often previously expressed, of the propriety of permitting women and children to accompany the male pioneers of the gospel. The dreadful risks to which these defenceless members of the missionary corps are exposed was painfully exemplified in 1900; and we believe we are not alone in thinking it would be better, for many reasons, to restrict missionary work and its perils to males. The Chinese idea of woman's status is not in anything like accordance with the foreign idea; and there must be men missionaries of experience who have been enabled to realise the many misconceptions which occur among the Chinese where women missionaries are concerned. It would not detract at all from their Christian unselfishness were these to set their faces against the intrusion of women into what is emphatically a sphere for men, and to encourage their uncomprehending brethren to a recognition of their full responsibility in countenancing the admission of women. Of course it can be urged that there is work which women can better do; but in view of the dreadful price that has sometimes to be paid, and the liability they will incur of being accused of a selfish disinclination to the fuller martyrdom of celibacy, we trust the men missionaries will not press this point too far. If they succeed in their good work with the men of China, the lot of the women of China would be directly ameliorated as desired, without the intervention of women missionaries.

Returning to the matter of the Linchow affair, all accounts agree in attributing its origin to the action of Dr. MACHLE; and as this gentleman has happily escaped the fate of his companions, there can be no sentimental objection to instituting an enquiry as to his share of responsibility for what happened. Article VIII. of the Tientsin Treaty of 1858 says: "The Christian religion, as professed by Protestants or Roman Catholics, inculcates the practice of virtue, and teaches man to do as he would be done by. Persons teaching it or professing it, therefore, shall alike be entitled to the protection of the Chinese authorities, nor shall any such, peaceably pursuing their calling and not offending against the laws, be persecuted or interfered with." To protest against the disturbance of hospital patients by the noises of the Joss procession was reasonable, provided it were properly done, and the request politely made to the responsible parties. If it be true that Dr. MACHLE laid hands on a sacred image carried by the procession, we fear we must place a large measure of a serious responsibility on his shoulders. To behave disrespectfully or sacrilegiously to a Joss appears to be such an unthought of thing in the case of Chinese that so far as we can ascertain there is no legal injunction extant, nor any legal penalty provided. Therefore, it may be that this zealous missionary has not "offended against the laws"; although he cannot be said (still assuming the correctness of the received reports) to have been "peaceably pursuing his calling." The missionary who wants to teach the heathen the wickedness and folly of idol-worship probably thinks he makes a fine point by maltreating the idol; but he is not doing "as he would be done by." For we read that "the people of Linchow are very superstitious, and" (*quid rides?*) "believe in their gods." Some of them might conceivably think it necessary to profane the American place of worship, or to handle disrespectfully some of its sanctified furniture, in which case the missionary's point of view would be different. This

affair will inevitably have political results. We in no way wish to whitewash the turbulent savages who have been guilty of such heinous murders; but it will be but fair to both sides to make sure what truth there is in these stories of provocation. The other point, which we regard as most important, is a matter for the various missionary societies, or their respective Governments. Will they take into consideration the advisability of forbidding the importation of women and children by inland missionaries? We think they ought to.

HONGKONG FINANCES.

(Daily Press 7th November.)

The Government Treasurer of Hongkong, Mr. A. M. THOMSON, has published an account of the revenue and expenditure covering the period from the beginning of the year to August 31, and, in addition, the usual interesting comparative statement. From the latter we perceive that the estimated revenue from light dues, \$75,000 for the year, is being well approached, the actual receipts amounting to \$50,445.17, an increase of \$1,313.36 over the amount taken in the corresponding period of the previous year. This progress is only to be expected in the case of a port which has climbed so rapidly yet steadily to the exalted position of first in shipping magnitude. There was a large increase also (\$234,686.28) in the collection of licence fees and internal revenue not otherwise specified, the estimate for the twelve months being \$4,820,260, and the revenue for eight being only a million and a half short of that. The item entered as "fees of Court or Office, Payments for specific purposes, and Re-imbursements in Aid" also shows an increase, of \$18,118.70. The revenue from the Post Office was estimated at \$405,000 for the whole year. It yielded in the first two-thirds of the year the sum of \$280,935, or \$7,495.20 more than in the corresponding portion of 1904. The expenditure from January to August inclusive under this head was \$434,626.41, or \$237,775.51. Without counting the \$8,600 set down elsewhere as special expenditure, a big proportion of this large increase must be regarded as of a special nature; and for the rest, it only remains to be said that the Colony does not yet get full value for its money. There is room for vast improvement in the management; the instances of failure might appear petty in detail, but their number continues so great as to make us wonder where the fault lies. Model administration of a public institution such as this demands much closer attention to details than appears to be possible locally. If the place is understaffed, the deficiency ought to be remedied at once, irrespective of estimates and rising expenditure. Let us have a trustworthy post-office, *ruat celum*, for it is the business hub of a commercial city, as important as the banks. The decrease in the rent of Government property, land and houses, has been noted before. These figures put the receipts at \$395,652.24, or \$35,681.28 less than in 1904. The increment from interest in the eight months was \$2,621.45. Due, we presume, to bigger balances rather than to any advance in the money rate. The Water Account shows an increase. The estimate was \$70,000 for the year; the revenue for the eight months was \$48,986.52, and the increase \$10,764.55. Land sales dropped off considerably, \$247,780.26 coming nowhere within two-thirds of the estimate, being, indeed, less than half. The revenue

was \$48,880.53 less than in the corresponding period of the previous year. On the expenditure side, the most important decrease (\$60,499.04) was set against Recurrent Public Works, by which it would appear that these do not always recur. The Public Works Department took \$7,293.48 more than before. The Ecclesiastical donation is \$800 more than in 1904. It has been referred to in Council, and is perhaps too unimportant to argue about, although we feel unable to admit that it is a proper charge upon the revenue of such a cosmopolitan and many-crested community. The Botanical and Afforestation Department spent \$5,580.60 less, and if this represents a saving on saw-sharpening and axe-grinding, we may well feel proud. Other decreases are Public Debt charges, \$4,098.42, Colonial Secretary's Department, \$3,103.10, New Territory Land Court, \$12,303.47, and Bacteriological Department, \$4,864.80. The Sanitary Department took \$4,658.20 more; and the expenditure on military, volunteers, and the contribution to Imperial Government was increased by \$77,886.60.

GERMANY IN CHINA.

(Daily Press 8th November.)

As Russia and Japan are now evacuating Manchuria, and neither is likely, for some time to come, to seek occasion for new quarrels, the German Government has resolved to withdraw the superfluous portion of the garrison at Tsintao. In connection with this, and finding that the Chinese Government was prepared to efficiently guard the line of railway from Tsintao to Chinan, the German Government has also arranged to withdraw its guards along the line now no further needed. The whole of this arrangement is doubtless satisfactory to China, who has of late shown a real desire to respect her international engagements. It also seems to be equally creditable to Germany, who has shown a willingness, now that the political aspect seems fair, not to throw an apple of discord into a situation which, for the first time for eight years, seems to be clear of danger. So far so good; everybody is pleased, and it might naturally have been expected that, having removed this last subject of complaint, BARON VON MUMM would have been permitted to avail himself of the well-earned leave of absence which was to be the reward. Such has not been the case, for with some strange perversity another subject, with which the first has very little in common, has been imported into the discussion, and the German Minister is ordered to stop a little longer to square up yet another tender subject. It does not yet appear whether the perverted ingenuity, which would revive a very unpleasant discussion at an inconvenient time, comes from Germany or China, but in any case it seems to come at a somewhat unfortunate period, before the new situation brought about by the cessation of the Russo-Japanese war has had time to declare itself.

It is doubtless true that China has been looking on with more or less resentful feelings to the continued occupation of the foreign Legations in Peking by foreign troops. The right to guard the Legations was imposed on China in consequence of her treacherous conduct in attempting to seize the Legations and their occupants; a crime, as China well knew, at variance with immemorial international practice, and which she has herself, at all periods of her history, considered deserving of condign punishment when she was the complaining party. It is quite true that China has

made the first beginning towards an improved position of affairs, and, we are willing to acknowledge, with every appearance of reality; still she has only as yet taken her first almost infantile steps, and is yet far from having so far consolidated her institutions as to render a relapse impossible. Another curious feature about the affair is that Germany should appear as taking the lead in a movement having for its object the withdrawal of the Legation guards all round. Doubtless Germany takes to herself immense credit for magnanimity in having been ready to withdraw a portion of her garrison in Shantung, but the presence of her troops on Chinese territory stood on an altogether different basis from that of the Legation guards, and was only defensible in practice on absolute danger; or in case China had refused or neglected to take the necessary steps to protect what was after all her own property, though doubtless under lien to Germany. At all events the withdrawal of the now unnecessary troops can hardly be said to form a basis for any special consideration from the other Powers; and, after all, the withdrawal of the troops seems to have been effected as much for Germany's own convenience as in pursuit of any ideal consideration of international right on the part of China. We have suggested that the time for asking for the withdrawal was particularly inconvenient. While we are willing to acknowledge China's good faith, and that on the whole she is really desirous of entering into the comity of the nations, it is not altogether the case that China is quite out of her troubles, and is altogether a free agent. Rumours such as those which marked the beginning of 1900 have not been altogether absent, and there is still, it is not to be denied, considerable pressure being brought to bear on the Government to force it to go back into the old groove. The recent bomb outrage, even if it were an isolated fact, is yet sufficient evidence to show that there is still a large and a powerful party averse to innovation, and the inability of the Government to trace it to its origin goes far to prove that it is by no means sure of its position. Still more is Germany's attitude in the affair not altogether clear. Circumstances, it is true, have led up to the removal of the garrisons, which had become practically useless since the cessation of hostilities between Russia and Japan, but they have not altogether led to the abandonment of Germany's policy of seeking to divide and weaken China. The most embarrassing of these is the maintenance of Post Offices all over China which can find no support on any principle of international right or reason. If, as was at one time the case, China had taken no steps to form a post office of her own, or if, after having formed it, she were using it for improper purposes, the interference of Germany, so far as her own or her subjects' postal matters was concerned, might have been called for as a matter of advisability or even necessity. England, at one time, in the absence of any postal arrangements whatever, did at the beginning, as a matter of sheer necessity, undertake the carriage of external postal matter, and its distribution at the open ports. As soon as China was in a position to undertake this, she at once commenced to withdraw gradually, and at no time interfered with the local carriage or distribution of correspondence. Not so Germany; which not only keeps her post offices at the extremities of her ocean mail routes, but competes with China on her own soil, and receives correspondence and does general postal business all over

the empire. It cannot be alleged that she does this to subserve any public interest, while the division of revenue tends to promote inefficiency all round. The German Minister's efforts would be more usefully employed in the general interest in getting rid of this anomaly than in seeking to do a disservice to all alike by introducing another bone of contention in Peking.

RESUMPTION OF INSANITARY AREAS.

(Daily Press, 9th November.)

When His Excellency the Governor said in September last that the Government was fully alive to the necessity for a continuous policy in the matter of the resumption of insanitary property, we remarked thereon that the community would be interested to learn what that policy was to be. Yesterday there was issued an elaborate "report on insanitary property resumptions in the years 1894-1905," which lets us into the secret of how matters stand at present; although it does not appear to us to promise a policy entitled to be characterised as strictly "continuous"—not until the completion of the extensive water supply schemes at present in hand, at any rate. But we take it that no dissatisfaction will be expressed, so eminently reasonable are the lines as laid down by His EXCELLENCY. The Trust recommended by Sir H. A. BLAKE is not to be established for some time; and probably will be finally abandoned; so that the information we asked for, concerning the manner of its formation, is not now expected. The superficially excellent idea that such an important work as the re-modelling of congested areas should be delegated to a special body, funded with the proceeds from land sales, does not commend itself to the GOVERNOR, who would rather "leave the tendering of advice as to the areas or buildings to be resumed and the utilization of the resumed areas to the members of the Government responsible for its sanitary measures and for the utilization to the best advantage of Crown lands." This opinion occurs in a letter to the Hon. ALFRED LYTTLETON, Colonial Secretary, in the course of which, while entirely concurring with the view "that a considerable sum should be devoted each year to the resumption of insanitary property, and that this resumption should proceed on continuous lines," he expresses the opinion that it is not desirable to fix the amount to be set aside for the work. To introduce into the Estimates the principle of allocating special receipts to special expenditures would, he points out, admit of various logical extensions; and if it were laid down that for so many years so much money must be allocated for resumptions, requests for suspensions of the order would be inevitable. This latter will hardly be denied by anyone who has followed the financial course of Hongkong. It would mean that the natural programme now suggested (i.e. the Governor to suggest each year as large a sum as he thinks can be conveniently appropriated) would still be followed, but under the gratuitous difficulties incidental to the evasion of a cut-and-dried plan. Nothing big can be undertaken in any case until after the water supply is assured; the lines of the resumption scheme have already been sketched by Mr. O. CHADWICK and Dr. J. W. SIMPSON; the Sanitary Board has dealt with minor details of the work; in view of these things, His EXCELLENCY does not support the Trust proposal, which was advocated by both Sir H. A. BLAKE and the Hon. Mr. MAY

(while administering the government). On general grounds it could be objected to, also; if the Legislative Council cannot be trusted with such an essentially vital part of its duty, it can be trusted with none; and we may as well have a bureaucratic system of Government at once, with many Trusts and Committees overlapping and clashing one with another. The Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. LYTTLETON, replies that he agrees generally with the GOVERNOR's views on the matter; and so, we presume, will most of those who were at one time tickled with the grandeur of the programme and liked the idea of a Trust to carry it out.

"TROPICAL FRENZY."

(Daily Press 10th November.)

Many of our readers will be interested by the extract from the *Evening Standard* which we reproduce in another part of this paper, under the caption "Tropical Frenzy." The writer in our London contemporary seems to adopt an attitude of scepticism toward this "new disease"; no doubt plenty of dwellers in the Far East will smile in sympathy with him; but we are sure that there will be a not inconsiderable number of folk who will read the reference to Professor PLEHN's "discovery" and remark to themselves that "that explains it." "Tropical Frenzy," we read, is "a disease from which so many German Colonial officials suffer, and which has been tendered in extenuation of various acts of brutality committed by them. Dr. PLEHN did not say that it was a disease confined to German officials"—we should think not, indeed—"but as far as is known it has been heard of only in connection with the African colonies of Germany." As to that, we should say it is the new diagnosis that has been heard of from those Colonies only; the disease itself, if we admit its existence, being common wherever a tropical sun shines on white skins unused to it. JEROME K. JEROME, speaking of Thames barge men and their habit of profanity, opined that there must be something esoteric about their occupation, or in the air of the river to make the barges use language which in their calmer moments they regretted. Dwellers in the Far East have long been familiar with the man who, as SHAKESPEARE says, is "rash and very sudden in cholera;" and the irascibles themselves after an outburst sometimes recognise the weakness. It is usual to attribute it to local atmospheric conditions. "I had a fairly equable temperament at Home," he pleads, "it must be this expletival climate." And so in Japan, China, India, and other hot places, we find the climate being made the scapegoat for this particular sin of man. But there has always been something unsatisfactory about that excuse. There are a few men who share the climate with us, and who do not choke with rage at the stupidity of the "boy." The angry men's wives have pointed this out, not always with pacificatory results. Our and their sympathy must now be extended to our JOSEPH SEDLEYS, since the publication of Doctor PLEHN's hypothesis. The ancient and abandoned theory of the connection between cholera and cholera returns in more modern and plausible shape. "Tropical Frenzy" is, we are told, usually associated with malaria, and in its features has much in common with progressive paralysis. Persons afflicted with it are not fully responsible for their actions, and should be treated

considerately. Fortunately, at Hongkong we are not ultra-tropical, and our irascibility is kept within limits.

SHIPPING.

(Daily Press, 11th November.)

In 1870 the shipping of the world, measured in tonnage, was about twenty millions. Thirty-four and a half per cent of it was British, twenty and a half per cent of it American, France claimed five per cent, and Germany and Norway each a little less than France. Thirty-four years later—last year—the British share of a total of 29,800,000 tons was 40.34 per cent. America had advanced only to a 21-1/4 per cent share, Germany to seven and three quarters per cent. Norway remained at her old four and three quarters, while France had receded, and now enjoys only four per cent of the total. So long as Great Britain keeps to the front like this the increased employment of foreign seamen on her ships seems remarkable, and the British lads' dislike of this employment inexplicable, unless we assume that the growing volume of our carrying trade spells severer competition and consequent reduction of the inducements to engage in it, on the part of the working sailor. It is interesting to note that the British lead, that was once so big in sailing shipping, is bigger still in steam shipping. The United States have 2,696,117 tons propelled by wind, against the United Kingdom's 1,802,667 tons; but this majority is handsomely reversed and excelled when steam-driven craft is in question. British steam tonnage last year amounted to 8,751,853, and American 3,585,418, or over five millions less. Norway still holds third place for sailing ships; but in the last thirty years, in steam tonnage, Germany has advanced from sixth place with about eighty thousand tons to third with nearly two millions. (It was 1,739,690 tons in 1903, the date of the last returns.) In the last half decade, a period for some inscrutable reason marked by excessive grumbling at the decadence of British trade supremacy, British steam tonnage has steadily advanced each year, increasing on the average about four hundred thousand tons a year. America, our most formidable rival for statistical supremacy, at any rate, required three full decades to make an equal advance. Without going into all the figures available, a casual survey of them suffices to show the gratifying fact that the progress of the United Kingdom is shared by her dependencies—the Empire at large owning nine and a half millions of the world's aggregate, as mentioned at the beginning of these comments. We may, therefore, avoid the over-nervousness of the alarmists, and regard with complacency the progress of our neighbours, which may be taken as evidence of the universal progress, and so lend stability to our own. As the world's trade increases, that is to say, we continue to take the lion's share, which is a more satisfactory arrangement than if we were merely robbing the others; for that which is stolen may be re-stolen. German shipping has advanced since 1898 in the ratio of about seventeen to ten. America's oversea shipping (registered for foreign trade) nearly, but not quite, doubled itself in the six years ending last year. So far as the volume of trade is concerned, the slight decrease in our sailing tonnage is unimportant; the gain implied by the enormous increase of steam tonnage being multiplied by the reflection that one steam ton is equal to (say) three sail tons. Great Britain still

leads in building, as well as running, ships, as the following table shows:—

Built in United Kingdom.	Built in United States.	Built in Germany.
Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1903 758,377	436,152	132,873
1904 884,259	378,542	—

It is worth noting that of those totals, the British figures include about one hundred and fifty thousand tons annually built to foreign (excluding colonial) orders. The new Board of Trade Return, published in August, has many more encouraging figures to show. One table shows our foreign trade (entrances and clearances) since 1895, when the entrances were thirty five million tons. These advanced steadily (with the exception of a slight drop in 1901) to 46,397,543 tons in 1904. Entrances from the Colonies, over the same period, showed the same persistent progress, rising from 4,858,399 tons in 1895 to 7,421,131 last year. Clearances (foreign) rose from 34,349,448 to 46,470,839 tons, and (colonial) from 6,188,035 to 8,100,637 tons. Not less interesting, from the patriotic standpoint, is the statement showing the number and tonnage of vessels of various nationalities, that passed through the Suez Canal since 1892. Here again British vessels have always preponderated. With the figures for 1904—

	262	1,167,105
Russian	82	249,801
Japanese	6	32,813
Italian	94	306,395

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Council was held at the Council Chamber on Nov. 8th. Present: HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

HIS EXCELLENCY Major-General VILLIERS HATTON, C.B. (General Officer Commanding the Troops).

Hon. Mr. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir H. S. BERKELEY, K.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. E. A. IRVING (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. BASIL H. TAYLOR, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. R. SHEWAN.

Hon. Mr. GERSHOM STEWART.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. C. W. DICKSON.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos. 49 to 57. I move that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

REPORT

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report on the Insanitary Property Resumptions in the years 1894 to 1905.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Three of these eight Financial Minutes which it is proposed to refer to the Finance Committee deal with sums of \$1,000 or less with regard to which you will not require any explanation from me. Minute No. 50 for \$3,887, is for resuming certain small houses and buildings in Cheung Sha Wan Bay, which have been awarded to claimants by the Land Court. In order to carry out the scheme

roads and boulevards and for lots for industrial undertakings in this important district it is necessary that all private rights should be extinguished within the area. It is advisable to do this at once. Financial Minute No. 53 is for an excess on the vote for printing miscellaneous papers, mainly due to the publication this year of the first issue of the Hongkong Civil List and also of some rather bulky sessional papers like the one which has been laid on the table of the Council this afternoon. Financial Minute No. 54 is for the sum of \$50,000 in extension of the vote which was taken on September 7th this year for the survey of the preliminary work of the Canton to Kowloon Railway. The survey has proceeded somewhat more rapidly than I had expected and we are now in a position to resume the land required for the road from Lo Fu ferry to Tai Po Fu. It has been decided that this resumption should take place at once because the harvest is now being gathered in, and in the ordinary course of events ploughing would commence at the end of this month and that would interfere with the survey marks. I am unable to suggest savings on the approved estimates from which this further sum of \$50,000 can be met. It will therefore go to decrease the excess of assets over liabilities at the end of this year. Both this sum and the sum of \$25,000 already voted and certain payments that have been made to personnel in the Public Works Department who have been employed in connection with the survey, will be debited to the loan for the Railway as it has been raised and credited to the

The resolution passed on 14th September, 1904, requiring the Tramway Electric Company to run trams at certain hours of the day, morning and evening, be now rescinded. He said: That resolution was passed twelve months ago. The cars have run regularly according to the requirements of the regulations, but it has been represented to the Government by the management of the Company that these cars have not been in any sense taken advantage of. The purpose of the resolution has therefore not been effected, and the Company in consequence are purposelessly running these cars at considerable unnecessary expense. The matter has been considered in the Executive Council, and this resolution is now put before you with the object of relieving the Company of unnecessarily running these cars I will be remembered that when this resolution was introduced it was intended that it should only be tentative. We did not know how it would work and the Council guarded itself against anything like an indication of a permanent intention to keep the Company to the obligation to run these cars by putting in the words "until further notice." If it be found necessary at any time to renew this resolution, that can be done under the powers of the Tramway Ordinance. I move that we now rescind the original resolution.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—Before the resolution is put I should like to ascertain whether the Tramway Company have advertised or done something to make it known generally that workmen's cars are run at certain hours for the benefit of workmen, mechanics and labourers. One of the conditions of the concession to the Tramway Company was to have a certain number of cars running night and morning for the use of the workmen who work at the end of the town. If the fact that this service of teams be known to the people and they do not make use of the service then the resolution is of no use, but if there is a doubt about that I think it would be a serious thing to rescind our resolution. As this matter has been discussed in the Executive Council, I hope your Excellency can assure me that nothing has been done by the Company to prevent the Chinese workmen, otherwise I should like to ask the Council to postpone the resolution until that fact has been ascertained. It is only due to the workmen and the generally that these cars should not stop running until we ascertain that those for whom they were intended do not use them.

The Hon. Mr. R. SHEWAN—Perhaps I can assure the hon member. I represent the agents of the Company. The manager has assured me that he has done his best to notify the public at each end of the line that these workmen's cars are running, but there is absolutely no demand for these cars. I cross-questioned him before I came to the Council and he told me the workmen did not avail themselves of the facilities afforded.

His EXCELLENCY—The cars are marked "Workmen's Cars?"

The Hon. Mr. R. SHEWAN—Yes. And they have been running all these months without advantage being taken of them. Of course the Company can resume this service, but at present there is absolutely no demand for it, as the men prefer to live on the spot rather than travel backward and forward to their work.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL—The fact that there are workmen's cars is a matter of public notoriety. The cars are placarded "workmen's cars" and I don't know whether we can expect the Company to do any more than that.

The Hon. WAI YUK.—I would suggest that the resolution be postponed until the facts are ascertained.

His EXCELLENCY—It was much the wish of the Government that these workmen cars should be used. I have been requested on various occasions to bring forward this resolution which will involve their no longer running, but I have postponed it in the hope that some use would be made of the cars. If you can suggest any means of bringing the running of the cars further to the notice of the public, I think that there is a chance of getting them to use them.

His EXCELLENCY—Do you think there is a chance of getting the people to use the cars?

The Hon. Dr. HO KAI—I will communicate with the Chinese newspapers, and also let it be widely known that unless the cars are used they will be withdrawn.

His EXCELLENCY—I can state as a positive fact that the cars are not used. I pass the Naval Yard frequently at the hour they are running and see the workmen crowding out of the Yard and allowing the cars to pass them empty.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved that the motion to rescind the resolution stand over till the next meeting of the Council.

This was agreed to and the council rose.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held after the Council—the Colonial Secretary presiding.

The following votes were passed:—

AFFORESTATION.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) in aid of the vote, Botanical and Afforestation Department—Other Charges, for the item, Peak Garden—Formation.

LAND COURT JUDGMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of three thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven dollars and sixty-two cents (\$3,887.62) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services for Acquisition of Houses under Section 36 of the Chinese Wai Land Court Judgment.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) in aid of the vote, Judicial and Legal Departments, Supreme Court—Other charges for the item Electric Light—Fans.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services, for Other Miscellaneous Services.

PRINTING.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200) in aid of the vote, Miscellaneous Services, for Printing Miscellaneous Reports.

SURVEY WORKS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Fifty thousand Dollars (\$50,000) in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Railway to Canton, Survey and Preliminary Work.

in aid of the vote, Public Works Extraordinary, Railway to Canton, Survey and Preliminary Work.

GAOL CHARGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of fifteen dollars (\$15) in aid of the vote Gaol—Other Charges, for the item Executioner's Fee, and for inflicting Corporal Punishment.

EDUCATIONAL.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two hundred dollars (\$200) in aid of the vote, Education, Inspector of Schools—Other Charges, Honorarium to Dr. Pearse for the preparation "Course of Hygiene for the use of Hongkong Schools."

POST OFFICE CHARGES.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of two hundred and sixty-one dollars (\$261) in aid of the vote, Post Office—Other Charges, for the following items:—
Allowance for Attendance on Sundays, &c. \$ 36
Coals, Stores, &c., for Steam-Launch ... 200
Shanghai.

Municipal and Land Rates ... 25

Total ... \$261

On the Council resuming,

The COLONIAL SECRETARY reported that Financial Minutes Nos. 49 to 57 had been considered by the Finance Committee and the recommendations therein had been approved. He laid the report on the table and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried. The Council then adjourned till the 20th inst.

INSANITARY PROPERTY RESUMPTIONS.

The following correspondence was published in a report submitted to the Legislative Council on Nov. 8th.

GOVERNOR SIR M. NATHAN TO MR. LYTTLETON.

Government House, Hongkong, 26th September, 1904.

SIR,—Mr. May has in accordance with the instructions contained in your Despatch No. 101 dated the 26th May last, placed before me the correspondence on the subject of a suggested Trust to carry out schemes for the resumption of insanitary areas and the improvement of the City of Victoria.

2. I entirely concur with him that a considerable sum should be devoted each year to the resumption of insanitary property, and that this resumption should proceed on continuous lines.

3. I do not think it would be desirable that it should be laid down either that a sum of \$350,000 plus half the proceeds of land sales, as proposed by the Committee that reported on the 24th September, 1903, or that a sum of not less than \$400,000 as recommended in Mr. May's despatch No. 150, dated the 9th April, 1904, should be devoted to resumptions. With regard to the first of these proposals I am adverse to the introduction into the estimates of the principle, which, if introduced, would admit of various logical extensions, of allocating a special source of receipts to a special object of expenditure; and with regard to the second I am convinced that were you to lay down any standing instruction for the allocation for a period of years of a large sum for resumptions you would frequently be asked to suspend it. For instance, in the draft Estimates for 1905, it has been necessary, on account of contracts already entered into, to set aside \$75,000 for water supply scheme and \$535,500 for continuing the erection of important public buildings that have been commenced. These sums, together with \$359,800 for some smaller continuation services, and a few minor works of sanitary and other urgent necessity, bring up the total Public Works Extraordinary Estimates to \$1,645,300, and it has been considered that \$170,000 is the minimum sum that can be added to this Estimate for compensation and resumptions of insanitary property under the Public Health Buildings Ordinance of 1903. Had

such a standing instruction as that which has been suggested been in force it would have been necessary either to have asked for its suspension, or to have raised additional taxation to meet the wants of the particular year, or to have broken contracts and stopped the execution of the important works in hand, or to have undertaken no other works, however important or urgent. I think that for the present it must be left to the Governor to suggest each year as large a sum as he thinks can conveniently be appropriated and profitably spent on resumptions and compensations.

4. In the circumstances that no sum can be set aside for resumptions on a very extended scale, at any rate until the extensive water supply schemes are completed in 1906, that the lines on which resumptions should be carried out are to some extent already indicated in Mr. O. Chadwick and Dr. W. J. Simpson's Report of the 14th May, 1902, on the question of the Housing of the Population of Hongkong, and that various reports that are received from the Sanitary Board contain specific recommendations for minor resumptions, I do not at present support the proposal for the establishment of a Trust embodied in the Report submitted in Sir H. A. Blake's Despatch No. 485 of the 23rd October, 1903, nor that for an Advisory Board recommended by Mr. May's No. 150, dated the 9th April, 1904. I would leave the tendering of advice as to the areas or buildings to be resumed and the utilization of the resumed areas to the members of the Government responsible for its sanitary measures and for the utilization to the best advantage of Crown Lands.

5. For the double purpose of assisting to secure continuity of policy and of collecting data which would govern any large scheme that may be undertaken in the future, I propose that there should be continuous records of all the resumptions undertaken. These records would consist of a Special Annual Report prepared by the Director of Public Works, and printed as a Sessional Paper which would show on a general map the position of the areas that have been resumed or are in process of resumption, and on more detailed plans each scheme of resumption, and of re-laying out the resumed area, and the extent to which each scheme had been carried out by the end of the year dealt with in the Report. It would show also the proportions of each resumed area originally and ultimately devoted to streets, lanes, and open spaces, and to Government purposes, and the progress that had been made in disposing of the new building lots it contained with the area still remaining for disposal. It would also contain a statement of accounts for each resumption showing the expenditure it had involved up to date, both for resumptions and for laying out roads, etc., within the resumed area, and the receipts obtained in the form of premia for new building lots, as well as a general account giving the total expenditure and receipts for all the resumptions that had been undertaken up to the end of the year with which the Report dealt.

6. If this proposal appears to you worthy of adoption the first Report to be issued for 1904 would deal with the Taipingshan resumption, carried out in the years 1894 to 1895, embodying the information already communicated to you in Mr. May's despatch referred to above, with the resumption carried out in the year 1902 of the area near Lower Lascar Row, which formed the subject of Sir William Gascoigne's despatch No. 223 of 27th May, 1902, and with the resumption recommended by Mr. Chadwick and Professor Simpson in the 4th and 26th paragraphs of their report of the 14th May, 1902, and carried out in the years 1903 and 1904 of the interior of the block bounded by Gough Street, Queen's Road Central, Wellington Street, and Aberdeen Street.

7. The comparatively small amount of the receipts from the sale of leases within the Taipingshan resumption, and the anticipated small proportion of receipts to outlay in connection with the Gough Street resumption, justify the doubt expressed in the 2nd and 3rd paragraphs of your despatch No. 283 of the 18th December, 1903, as to the immediate remunerativeness of this necessary sanitary work.

I have, etc.

M. NATHAN.

MR. LYTTLETON TO GOVERNOR SIR. M. NATHAN.

Downing Street, 3rd November.

SIR.—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 349 of the 26th of September with regard to the suggested Trust to carry out schemes for the resumption of insanitary areas and the improvement of the City of Victoria.

2. I agree generally with your views on this matter, and approve your proposal with regard to the issue of Special Reports.—I have, etc.,

ALFRED LYTTLETON.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT, TO MAY 1ST, 1905.

Dr.	\$	c.	\$	c.
Taipingshan.				
To amount spent on resumption of property including all costs, fees, etc...	821,268.32			
Amount spent on construction of roads, sewers, etc.	123,059.47			
			944,327.79	
Lower Lascar Row.				
To amount spent on resumption of property including all costs, fees, etc...	36,950.00			
Amount spent on construction of roads, sewers, etc.	1,147.79			
			38,097.79	
Kru-u-fong. (Now in progress.)				
To amount spent on resumption of property including all costs, fees, etc...	237,156.50			
Amount spent on construction of roads, sewers, etc.	3,187.50*			
			240,344.00	
Total amount expended	\$	1,222,769.58	\$	c.
Cr.	\$	c.	\$	c.
By amount received from sales of land	171,398.50			
By sale of building material, earth deposited in Praya Reclamation, etc.	19,930.87			
			191,329.37	
Receipts			Nil.	
Receipts (salvage land not yet dealt with)			Nil.	
Financial deficit			1,031,440.21	

Total \$1,222,769.58

* Estimated further amount required to complete work, \$18,500.

REPORT ON SCHEMES UNDERTAKEN FROM 1894 TO 1905.

Taipingshan Resumption.—The serious outbreak of plague in 1894 gave rise to the first resumption scheme undertaken for the purpose of improving the sanitary condition of the City of Victoria. During the course of the epidemic, the inhabitants of a large area in the Taipingshan District were evicted, accommodation being provided elsewhere for those who liked to avail themselves of it, and, after resumption of the property by the Government, the area was entirely cleared of buildings and laid out afresh in building lots with streets and lanes suitably arranged. Owing to the irregularity and steepness of the ground, the operations involved were of a very extensive and costly nature. Numerous high retaining walls had to be built, streets and lanes formed, and sewers and storm-water drains constructed to suit the re-arrangement of the building lots. The various works were not completed until 1899 and the expenditure on them, after deducting various credits for materials sold or deposited as filling in the Praya Reclamation, amounted to \$103,128.60. The cost of resuming the property, including all charges, was \$821,268.32, making the total cost of the scheme \$924,396.92. The amount realized by the sale of building lots up to the present time amounts to \$171,398.50.

A considerable proportion of the land rendered available for building purposes was utilized for the creation of public gardens or devoted to other public purposes, this reducing the area intended for sale and largely augmenting the financial loss on the scheme.

Full particulars of the scheme are given in the annexed table.

Lower Lascar Row Resumption.—No further resumptions on sanitary grounds were undertaken until 1902, when Messrs. Chadwick and Simpson visited the Colony to report on its condition from a sanitary point of view and advise the Government with regard to the

adoption of measures for its improvement. During their visit a fire occurred which practically destroyed a number of houses near the junction of Lower Lascar Row and Ladder Street. It was considered that an opportunity was thus afforded of improving the neighbourhood, which was a congested one, and Messrs. Chadwick and Simpson formulated a small scheme, which they submitted to Government. This scheme was only partially carried out, a portion of it, which involved the payment of heavy compensation without any commensurate benefit to neighbouring properties, being abandoned. The expenditure on the portion carried out was \$38,097.79, the entire area resumed being devoted to the formation of a street about 32 feet wide between the houses fronting on Queen's Road and those fronting on Circular Pathway.

Details of the areas resumed and expenditure involved are given in the annexed tables.

Kau-U-Fong Resumption.—The task of formulating and carrying out improvement schemes in a systematic manner was first undertaken in 1903, when a start was made with a densely-built block lying west of Aberdeen Street and between Wellington and Gough Streets and known as Kau-U-Fong. South and West, and eight in On Wo Lane were resumed in addition to two in Aberdeen Street and three in Gough Street, and all of these were entirely demolished. A new street 30 feet in width, has been constructed and it is proposed to dispose of the surplus land for building purposes. The scheme is not quite completed so a complete and accurate statement of the cost cannot therefore be given. The figures available are, however, given in the annexed tables.

W. CHATHAM,
Director of Public Works.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

THE HONGKONG CELEBRATIONS.

Nov. 9th was the sixty-fourth anniversary of the birthday of His Majesty King Edward VII., and throughout the Empire the occasion was celebrated, Hongkong not being a whit behind other parts in its manifestation of loyalty. The weather was all that could be desired, and most inviting to holiday makers. All Government offices, exchange banks, schools and the majority of mercantile houses were closed. The city displayed a profusion of bunting, while the majority of vessels in port, both British and Foreign, dressed ship in honour of the occasion. The Royal Standard fluttered from the flagstuffs of Government House and of Headquarters House, while the Union Jack was hoisted on the hospital ship *Meander*. The greater number of Hongkong residents were to be seen trekking to Happy Valley at an early hour in the morning where the troops were to be reviewed by H.E. the Governor. Rickshaws were at a premium, while the tramcars, which followed each other in quick succession were literally packed.

The Valley, with its natural beauties, presents a picturesque appearance at all times, but on such occasions as yesterday the scene presented could only be done full justice to by the brush of the skilful artist. The mist which more often than not obscures the scene to spectators on the summits of the surrounding hills was absent. Large groups of people on Bowen Road, and even on the higher levels, were discerned from the race course witnessing the evolutions of the troops. The course itself presented the animated appearance it wears on race days. Flags fluttered from the grand stand, from which a large number chose to watch events. The favoured few had chairs provided on the tracks, while the course was lined by a large crowd, even the top of the black rock being utilised by athletes. The troops as they were lined up in the ring displayed a solid front and with their bayonets glistening in the morning sun, presented an imposing spectacle. An innovation at a local review was the appearance of mounted troops and mule batteries on parade. The H.K.V.C. troop of 25 members, mounted on China ponies, proved a great attraction to the onlookers, and the manner in which they acquitted themselves in their

share of the manoeuvres was alike creditable to each individual member; and the skilled instructor, Mr. R. Hudson, an ex-unit of the 5th Dragoons and a South African campaigner. The restlessness of the China pony is well known, and the instructor of the corps realised that if the troop was to acquit itself with credit on parade, it would be necessary to train the ponies to stand fire. Consequently at the drills at Causeway Bay they were trained to face salvos of crackers, the result being evidenced at the review when ranks were kept during the crack of rifle and the boom of cannon. A noticeable feature of the parade was the absence of Naval representatives, which was no doubt owing to the withdrawal of the China squadron: many officers in uniform, however, were on the ground as spectators. The mules and horses from Kowloon had been shipped to Hongkong on the previous day, and early yesterday morning the troops from the other side were landed here, so that preliminaries were arranged and the various regiments were on the ground punctually.

Major-General Villiers Hatton, the General Officer Commanding, took command of the troops, which were drawn up in two lines facing the S.W. Shortly before ten o'clock, the Governor arrived, when the Royal Standard was unfurled, the massed bands played a verse of the National Anthem, and the troops came to the salute. His Excellency, who was accompanied by his aide-de-camps, Captain Smith and Captain Arbuthnot Leslie, two Indian officers, and Captain Armstrong of the H.K.V.C. (who was honorary aide-de-camp) was mounted on a China pony, and wore a dark grey frock suit. He rode on to the ground and minutely inspected the troops. This was followed by the feu de joie. The 2.95 guns of the H.K.S.B. R.G.A. on the right of the line, opened fire, each gun in succession telling vigorously as it belched forth its salute of many happy returns the surrounding hills taking up the refrain, and echoing and re-echoing it far and wide. Afterwards the troops discharged their rifles to the same tune, and then, the division having fixed bayonets, gave the Royal salute. Subsequently the massed bands struck up the National Anthem, and the troops, removing their head dresses gave three ringing cheers for His Majesty. Immediately afterwards, the chief spectacular event of the parade occurred. The Governor accompanied by his aide-de-camps, having taken up his position at the saluting base, beneath the Royal Standard, was afterwards joined by the General Officer commanding, where they witnessed the march past. To the stirring strains of the regimental bands, the various battalions marched past in quarter column in the following order:—

Mounted Troops (H.K.V.C.).
Royal Garrison Artillery.
Royal Engineers.
2nd Royal West Kent Regt.
H.K.S.B.R.G.A.
Hongkong Volunteer Corps.
119th Infantry.
129th Baluchis.

The men marched very steadily and their performance evoked favourable comment. A noteworthy feature was the saluting of the colours borne by the standard bearers, of the Royal West Kents, the H.K.S.B.R.G.A. and the 119th Infantry, while the advance in Review Order afforded another picturesque scene in the interesting events of the morning. The Royal Salute practically concluded the programme, and the various battalions were marched off to their respective quarters, where most of them found the wherewithal to drink "a health unto his Majesty."

To-day (Friday) will be observed as a holiday by the troops in the garrison.

GENERAL'S RECEPTION.

In the course of the afternoon Major General Villiers Hatton, the General Officer Commanding, held a reception at headquarters, which was largely attended. The callers included His Excellency the Governor and his A.D.C.'s, several naval and military officers and many civilians.

GOVERNOR'S LEVEE.

At Government House in the evening His Excellency entertained some fifty guests, members of the Legislative Council, heads of departments, etc., at dinner.

Later, he held a levee at Government House. The band of the 2nd Royal West Kent Regiment was in attendance and discoursed pleasing selections of music, while the same regiment supplied a guard of honour, 100 rank and file under the command of Lieut. Belgrave. The grounds, round which the guests could stray at their leisure, were lighted by a number of Japanese lanterns, while the tastefully arranged pot plants within had the effect of making the place feel welcome. If the visitors were not inclined for a promenade after being received, they betook themselves to the room where light refreshments were dispensed.

JAPANESE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

RECEPTION AND BALL.

Nov. 3rd was an anniversary of the birthday of the Emperor of Japan, and local Japanese residents befittingly celebrated the occasion.

Between ten and eleven o'clock in the forenoon, Mr. M. Noma, the Japanese Consul, received a number of his countrymen at his residence, and from noon till one o'clock he held a reception at the Consulate for British and foreign residents. Amongst those who paid their respects were Captain Arbuthnot Leslie, representing H.E. the Governor, Captain A. S. Ward, A.D.C. to, and representing H.E. Major-General Villiers Hatton, Captain Muller, R.N., A.D.C. to Commodore Williams, Sir F. T. Piggott, Chief Justice, Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, Sir H. S. Berkeley, Attorney-General, Hon. Mr. T. Bercombe Smith, Colonial Secretary, Admiral Richard, of the French cruiser *Montcalm*, Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate, besides many representatives of the mercantile community and the majority of the Consular Corps.

In the afternoon Mr. Noma entertained a number of his countrymen at luncheon at his residence.

The ball, which was given by the Consul and a number of prominent Japanese citizens, was to celebrate a double event—the Emperor's birthday and the declaration of peace. Many dances which have taken place at the City Hall have been described as the best of the season, but on this occasion all previous efforts were eclipsed, the taste of the Japanese in the art of decorating, and their foresight with regard to the requirements of their guests, ranking them second to none as entertainers. Outside the City Hall strings of lanterns ran from the monument to various parts of, and then along the balcony. The hall might be described, to use a stock phrase, as a veritable fairyland. Around the pillars were palms and other pot plants while encircling them in a snake-like twine were green creepers. The first two pillars on either side near the door displayed the Japanese sun-ray flag and the British white ensign. A novelty which added considerably to the beauty of the decorations was the introduction of panoramic paintings of Japanese landscapes. One of these placed on the right hand side of the entrance of the hall, was an imitation of a scene from Nikko, and showed a stream of water running from the rocks. The pillars at the foot of the stairs were made to represent trees, from which sprouted, so as to form an arch, boughs containing an abundance of autumn leaves. Festoons of Japanese lanterns stretched from pillar to pillar, while others were displayed above the stairs. Red cloth covered the stair banisters, while pots of chrysanthemums were arranged on the side of each step. Golden shapes crowned the tops of the stair rails, after the fashion of the famous Nikko bridge, and this bridge the staircase was designed to represent. On ascending the first flight of steps and resting on the landing, the guests viewed the Imperial emblem of Japan—the golden sixteen leaved chrysanthemum. On the left hand side of this, in Japanese characters, were the words "The Emperor's birthday," and on the right, the word "Welcome." The whole was enclosed in an oblong of flowers, out of which peeped a number of electric lights, while surmounting it were the crossed flags of Great Britain and Japan. At the entrance to the supper room, St. George's Hall, was the model of a scene from the

Inland Sea, while another in the room displayed a landscape in Hakkone. The ball room was draped with flags of all nations, and superb Japanese lanterns, each containing an electric light, ran round the ceiling close to the walls. These lanterns were surmounted by sprays of cherry blossom. The balcony was divided by a number of flags into small enclosures, each of which contained chairs for two. The most casual observer could not fail to notice, as he viewed the decorations and saw entwined the flags of Great Britain and Japan, that the artists were desirous of emphasizing the fact of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

The Electric Company arranged the electric lights; two sailors from H.M.S. *Tamir* were responsible for the flag decorations, while it was on the suggestion of Captain Tonami that the Japanese scenes were introduced. The majority of the flower turnings displayed in the reception room were the handiwork of Japanese ladies. The committee who arranged matters in connection with the ball comprised Mr. M. Noma, Consul for Japan, and Mrs. Noma, Captain Tonami, I.J.N.; Mr. Minami, manager of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, and Mrs. Minami, Mr. Takamichi, Manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Mr. A. S. Mihara, Manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Mr. Matsuda, Manager of the Tokyo Kisen Kaisha, Mr. Hiroi, Mr. Todo, Manager of the Taiwan Bank, Mr. Kondo, Manager of the Midzushima Coal Co. and Mr. Minami, Manager of the Kusakhi Co. Mr. Yera had a good deal to do with decorations.

Invitations had been issued to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

H.E. the Governor.

Captain Armstrong, Lt.-Col. Aitkin, Miss Alloway, Four Officers of Royal Garrison Artillery, Mr. J. Arnold, Mr. and Mrs. S. Allan, Mr. and Mrs. B. Aagaard, Sub-Lieut. L. Adam, the Executive Officer of *Argus*.

Sir Henry and Lady Berkeley, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Brewin, Mr. and Mrs. Badeley, Mr. and Mrs. Bowley, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Bunney, four Officers Army Ordnance Dept., Dr. and Mrs. Bell, Consul-General and Mrs. Bragg, Mr. and Mrs. Bolowsky, Messrs. Barretto, Gonzalez de Bernedo and J. W. C. Bonner, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Burke, Miss Blair, Capt. and Mrs. Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. Bridgman, Mr. and Mrs. Brotherton, Miss Belcher, Messrs. N. S. Brown, J. P. Braga, and A. Babington, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Becker, Mr. F. Bargman, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar G. Barrett, Mrs. Borthwick, Messrs. Boyd, M. S. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bolles, Mr. and Mrs. L. Beridougue, Mr. A. Bune, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Brown, Messrs. H. T. Butterworth T. J. R. Bisschop and J. Bridgewater, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bingham, Engineer Commander and Mrs. Blackie Lt. F. C. Beauregard.

The Hon. Sir Paul Chater, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Chatham, the Hon. Dr. and Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Cooper, Major Chichester, Lt. and Mrs. Cranford, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Cocker, Major and Mrs. Chitty, Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham, Messrs. T. Clarke, Dr. D. A. Murdoch Clark, Mr. G. de Champeaux and Mr. T. Christiani, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Carmichael, Mr. T. P. Cochrane, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Cruickshank, Mr. and Mrs. Caldwell.

The Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Dickson, Dr. and Miss Doberck, Col. Darling, Lt. Commander Darwell, Mr. Droeze, Miss Dewar, Mr. W. H. Donald, Mr. Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. F. Donaldson, Messrs. J. Dickie, C. F. Dixon, and V. H. Deacon, Capt. and Mrs. Douglas.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, four Officers of Royal Engineers, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ellis, Mr. E. P. Erskine.

Mr. Fletcher, Lt.-Col. Fitton, D.S.O., and four Officers, Mr. Fullerton, Mr. and Mrs. Fraser, Miss Farquharson, Mr. and Mrs. Fuchs, Mr. Friesland, Capt. Fitzwilliams, Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Mr. and Mrs. A. Forbes, Mr. E. Freyvogel.

The Hon. Dr. Hokai, Mr. Hazeland, the General and Mrs. Hatton, Col. Haynes, Mr. and Mrs. Hobbins, Messrs. Hamman and Haupt, Rev. Mrs. and Miss Hickling, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Hooper, Mr. and Mrs. Hornby, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Harker, Lt. Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Hale, Mr. T. F. Hough, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Humphreys, Mr. Chan Hewan, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Hewett,

four Officers of H.K.V.C., Mr. and Mrs. Paget Hett, Mr. D. Hudig, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Hamesh, Mr. and Mrs. Hagehuter, Miss Hazeland, Mr. Sydney Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. R. Heinsen, Mr. T. A. Hammer, four Officers H.K.S.B.R.G.A., Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hastings, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hughes, Dr. J. S. Hough, Mr. H. Hancock, Engineer Captain Hurst.

Inspector-General and Mrs. Gimlette, Mr. and Mrs. Guibert, Miss Gourlay, Mrs. Gibbs, Mr. T. E. Gresson, Mr. and Mrs. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Grace, Mr. C. H. Gale, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Grimble, Mr. and Mrs. E. Goetz, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Gedge, Capt. and Mrs. Goddard, Mr. Greenlees, Capt. P. Germain.

Mr. and Mrs. Irving.

The Hon. Mr. and Mrs. L. A. M. Johnston, Lt.-Col. Josling, Dr. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. P. N. H. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Jupp, Lt. James, Mr. and Mrs. James, Mr. and Mrs. Jones (H. S. Bank, Manila), Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Jordan, Lt. C. Jeune, Commandant and Madame Jeamel.

Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Kent, Dr. and Mrs. Kruger, Dr. and Mrs. Koch, Major and Mrs. Kaye, Major and Mrs. Kelsall, Mr. and Mrs. K. S. Kottowe, Capt. Krebs, Rear-Admiral Kiesel, Dr. Kermorvant.

Capt. Leslie, Major Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. Leiria, Mr. Liebert, Mr. Lamsdon, Mr. and Mrs. and Misses Loureiro, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Jones, Capt. and Mrs. Lambelle, Capt. and Mrs. Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Lloyd, Mr. L. S. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. ay, Messrs. A. R. Lowe, Lammert, W. E. Lickie, Lieut. and H. W. Looker, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Lambert, Mr. Lenzmann, Engineer Luneau.

Capt. Muller, R.M.L.I., Dr. and Mrs. Mowatt, Messrs. Muelle, Marty, and C. D. Melbourne, Miss Macpherson, Mr. G. C. Moxon, Mr. L. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Murphy, Mr. F. J. Mayers, Mr. and Mrs. Mast, Mr. D. Macdonald, Dr. and Mrs. Majima, Mr. W. Melchers, Miss Moir, Mr. and Mrs. Mast, Mrs. Ellis W. Moss, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Muller, Capt. and Mrs. Marchant, Messrs. H. N. Mody, A. G. Morris, G. H. Medurst, and C. W. May, Mr. and Mrs. O. Michael, Les Officiers au *Montcalm*, Captain H. Martel.

Lt. Commander Noble, the Nursing Sisters R.N. Hospital, Mr. and Mrs. O. Nielsen.

Messrs. Edward Owen, Oppenheim, K. Oldorf, J. Orange and Ontou.

Messrs. R. Ponsonby, the Chief Justice and Lady Piggott, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Post, Mr. and Mrs. Pescio, Major and Mrs. Painter, Major and Mrs. Pritchard, Mr. Peter Potts, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Powell, Mr. and Mrs. Mod. Parr, Capt. and Mrs. Price, Monsieur Saint Piesse, Mr. and Mrs. T. Petrie, Mr. H. E. Pollock, Major and Mrs. Parry, Major Pedley, Miss Penrudlock, Mr. H. Pauli, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Pinckney, Mr. J. Paterson, Sub-Lt. Pierre de Scilly.

Major and Mrs. Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Romano, Mr. and Mrs. Ram, Messrs. A. B. Rouse and N. H. Rutherford, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Raymond, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Rodger, Lt.-Commander Richards, Madame Ribot, Mr. E. H. Ray, Mr. and Mrs. H. Robertson, Mr. C. Rogge, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Vice-Admiral Richard, Enseigne de Vaisseau C. Robert.

Captain Smith, A.D.C., the Hon. Mr. T. S. Smith, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. G. Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. and Misses Seth, Lt.-Com. and Mrs. Seymour, Mr. A. G. Stokes, Dr. Sibree, Mr. and Mrs. Simms, Mr. E. A. Snewin, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Slade, Mr. and Mrs. J. Gray Scott, Mr. S. Swart, Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Swan, Mr. and Mrs. Shellim, Messrs. H. M. Scott and H. Skott, Lt. and Mrs. Summer, Lt.-Col. Sparkes, Mr. and Mrs. and Misses Setna, Messrs. E. H. Sharp, M. Stewart, F. Salinger and J. R. M. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Schubart, Mr. and Mrs. H. Suter.

The Hon. Mr. and Mrs. B. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Tooker, Capt. and Mrs. Tuke, Mr. Tibbey, Mr. and Mrs. D. Templeton, Mr. and Mrs. Tutchner and Mr. Trimmel.

Mr. Justice and Mrs. Wise, The Hon. Mr. Wei Ynk, Dr. and Mrs. B. Wright, Mr. Wakeman, Capt. Ward, A.D.C., Major Williamson, Commodore and Mrs. Williams, Mr. Woodward, R.N., Commander and Mrs.

Watson, five Wardroom Officers of H.M.S. *Tamar*. Dr. and Mrs. White, Staff Paymaster Wilson, Major and Mrs. Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. T. Wright, Mrs. and Miss Wakefield, Mr. F. W. Ware, Mr. and Mrs. David Wood, four Officers of West Kent Regt., Mr. H. P. White, Mr. A. G. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. W. Wilson, Commander Winthrop.

Mr. Volpicelli, Capt. and Mrs. Vereker, Miss Young, Mr. and Mrs. Yera.

SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 3rd November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

CLAIM FOR MONEY LENT.

Li Yik Mui sued Au Fung Kau to recover the sum of \$240.53, money lent together with interest thereon.

Mr. R. Harding appeared for the plaintiff, whom he called to prove the debt.

His Lordship gave judgment for the amount and costs.

AN OLD DEBT.

The Kwong Lung firm proceeded against Kwok Yun Tin to recover the sum of \$9.50, balance due on account of goods sold and delivered.

His Lordship (to defendant)—What have you got to say?

Defendant—The amount has been standing at my debit since last year.

His Lordship—What has that got to do with it? Are you going to pay the money?

Defendant—I will leave it with your Lordship to decide. I have not got the amount at present.

His Lordship—Judgment for the amount claimed and costs.

STRONGER EVIDENCE REQUIRED.

Sit Leung Kit claimed the sum of \$27.80 from Kwong Cheung Fat on account of rent due.

His Lordship (to plaintiff)—You are claiming from the occupier of 24 Battery Street, Yaumati?

Plaintiff—Yes.

His Lordship—Well, the defendant was never there as far as I can make out. Are you the landlord of Nos 10 and 12 Battery Street?

Plaintiff—No.

His Lordship—Well, defendant rented those places.

Defendant, on being called, corroborated His Lordship's statement.

His Lordship—You told me last time you were here that you had never lived in Battery Street. You said your shop was at 21 Reclamation Street.

Defendant—I meant to say 10 and 12 Battery Street.

His Lordship (to plaintiff)—If you are unable to produce better evidence than this I cannot do anything for you.

Plaintiff—I would ask your Lordship to telegraph to the Inspector at Yaumati to make inquiries.

His Lordship—There is a mix up in numbers, I believe, but you must prove that the defendant rented a floor of the godown at No. 24 Battery Street. I have sent a bailiff over, but he cannot find out any particulars about the floor in question. If you like, I will adjourn the case until next Friday, when you can bring an inspector or a constable across yourself. (To the defendant)—If I find out by police evidence that you have been telling me lies it will be rather the worse for you.

The case was adjourned.

CLAIM FOR RENT.

Tam Ho sued Ho Chak for the sum of \$ 6 due for rent.

His Lordship—Do you admit the debt?

Defendant—No. I occupied his premises for a month and twenty days, and the plaintiff then told me to leave.

His Lordship—Well, did you pay?

Defendant—No.

His Lordship—You had better pay now.

Defendant—But plaintiff told me I needn't, as he had given me notice.

His Lordship—But you must pay for the time you have been there. Have you got a husband?

Defendant—Yes. But he's gone abroad.

His Lordship—Gone abroad. Well you had better pay the amount due.

Defendant—But I haven't the money to pay now.

His Lordship—No doubt that's the difficulty, but I will give judgment and costs against you.

A LUKONG SCED.

Lall Singh proceeded against Ieung Kai to recover \$25 due on a promissory note.

Plaintiff produced the promissory note, which he stated was signed by the defendant.

His Lordship (to defendant)—Did you sign this?

Defendant—Yes.

His Lordship—Well you must pay the money. Did you get leave from the Captain Superintendent to come down here?

Defendant—No, from the Inspector.

His Lordship—He knows you have been borrowing money then?

Defendant—Yes.

His Lordship—All right. Judgment and costs.

Saturday, 4th November.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE), AND MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

TAM AN SANG E. TAN YAU AND ANOTHER.

This was an application for leave to appeal from a decision given by His Honour, the Puisse Judge, on Monday last.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. C. E. H. Beavis (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) made the application under section 34 of the Summary Court Ordinance. He said the plaintiff's claim in the action, the decision given in which they now wished to appeal against, was for \$1,000, half of which was in respect to a deposit made with the defendant for the sale of their newspaper, and half for damages sustained by their failure to carry out the contract. They now wished to appeal with regard to the \$500 deposit. His Honour the Puisse Judge, in giving judgment, not only decided in favour of the defendants with costs, but also held that the plaintiff had forfeited his deposit. The contract was that \$500 should be paid down and a quarter of the purchase money within forty-eight hours, while the balance was to be paid between June 2nd and 14th. The whole question turned on whether there had been any action on the plaintiff's part that would cause him to forfeit his deposit money.

The application for a rehearing of the case was granted.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE SIR F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE)

APPLICATION FOR A DEBTOR'S RELEASE.

In the case of Choi Chan Li ex parte Lo Toi Chan, Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring) applied for the release of the debtor from prison where he had been committed by his Lordship on Thursday on the ground that he had disclosed evidence of fraud in connection with the removal of a quantity of furniture from one of his houses. Mr. Goldring read a declaration made by the debtor's concubine, where in she stated that she had removed the furniture in question without the debtor's knowledge or consent.

His Lordship intimated that he would hear the application on Wednesday.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

D. E. BROWN v. HONGKONG HIGH LEVEL TRAMWAY CO. AND J. D. HUMPHREYS AND SON.

This was an application for an injunction to restrain the defendants from putting into effect certain special resolutions carried at an extraordinary meeting of the Company.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. Hastings (on behalf of Mr. Brown) and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson (on behalf of other shareholders) made the application.

His Lordship—I don't see how Mr. Brown can apply on behalf of other shareholders.

Mr. Pollock quoted authority to show that he had the right to sue on behalf of other shareholders not present. The motions passed at the

meeting of the company were:—(1) That the business of the company should be wound up voluntarily. (2) That the general managers be appointed liquidators. (3) The registration of a new company. (4) That the liquidators should sell to a new company to be known as the Peak Tramways Company the undertakings of the old company at the price of \$2.00 per share and enter into the necessary arrangements to carry the resolutions into effect. They took several objections as to the validity of these proceedings. In connection with the first of these he would refer his Lordship to the notice sent to Mr. Brown and other shareholders with regard to the business to be transacted at the meeting. They contended that the notice was altogether insufficient as to the business to be transacted and was also insufficient notice under the Companies' Ordinance. He thought he would be able to show that under the circumstances which existed at the time that the notice given to Mr. Brown and other shareholders was bad in not containing sufficient information as required by law and secondly under the Companies' Ordinance. Taking the notice first; it set out the resolutions to be passed at the meeting, and which were passed. He would refer his Lordship's attention to the fact that it contained no reference to the Companies' Ordinance but simply to the Tramway Company's articles of association. He should be able to show that the notice should refer to the particular section of the Ordinance. The result of the meeting was that the business of the old company was sold, at what they said was a low and absolutely ridiculous rate, to a new company to be formed with a capital of \$750,000 as contrasted with a capital of \$125,000 possessed by the old company, and this new company was going to spend a large sum of money in constructing another tramway to the Peak. The circular sent out (marked private) did not give such information to the shareholders as would enable them to satisfy themselves as to whether they should attend the meeting or not. With reference to the new company it was very deficient in information and did not inform the shareholders what was to be done. There was no mention of the proposed construction of a new tramway or the probable cost of it, or of the intended capital of the new company, which, as his Lordship would see, was most material, for although a company might pay handsome dividends with a small capital, if there was a large increase in capital they would be sure to dwindle away. It was required by law that the notice should give sufficient information to the shareholders to enable them to judge as to whether it was necessary in their interests to attend the meeting or not.

His Lordship—As far as I can see the whole of the dissenters attended the meeting.

Mr. Pollock—Yes, they did attend, but who is to say that some of the absent shareholders, who were at some distance, might not have dissented if they had known of the new company with its huge capital. I am now informed that all of the dissenters did not attend both meetings. The whole question is whether the notice was good or bad.

His Lordship—Any irregularity would be waived if all of the shareholders in the company were present.

Mr. Pollock then cited the case of Tieszen versus Henderson in support of his argument. There was no mention in the notice or circular of a sum of \$10,000 that was paid in brokerage in connection with the arrangements, nor of a sum of \$25,000 which had already apparently been paid to the promoter of the second tramway company. In the notice the material points should have been set out. There should have been notice of the intention to reconstruct. It would appear from an affidavit filed by Mr. Hastings that the new company had already been put on the register and, therefore, they had considered it advisable to move at once. The new company had registered its memorandum and articles of association under the title of the "Peak Tramways Company, Limited."

His Lordship—I think that a case has been made out, and you are entitled to an injunction. This will be granted, and I think it would be better for both parties if an early date is fixed for the matter to come before the Court.

Monday, 6th November.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A QUESTION OF PRIORITY.

His Lordship delivered judgment on the question of priority raised on the two actions last week when the Sui Tak Bank and the Soy Kut Bank obtained judgments against Chau Tung Shang. In the former case Mr. Calthrop (instructed by Mr. Stevenson) appeared for plaintiffs and in the latter Mr. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. D'Almada e Castro, of Messrs. Brutton Hett and Goldring) appeared for plaintiffs.

His Lordship said—Judgment in both these cases has been given for plaintiffs on the merits of the cases but the question of priority has to be decided in this judgment as it affects both actions. The question of priority as between two writs of what is called "Foreign Attachment" in the Code of Civil Procedure was raised in two actions against Chau Tung Shang. I must say at once that the heading of this chapter is erroneous. It is a process for seizing property within the jurisdiction belonging to a defendant out of the jurisdiction, without having recourse to the usual procedure of service out of the jurisdiction. This is made clear by section 453 (1) (b) which provides that one of the conditions precedent to the procedure being made use of is that the plaintiff has taken out a writ of summons against the defendant; but that the defendant is absent from the Colony or is concealing himself, and therefore, cannot be served. It is quite regular to issue a writ of summons for service within the jurisdiction against a defendant who may be abroad, although it cannot be served at the time. Its object being to serve the defendant should he at any time be found within the jurisdiction. Under this process it becomes useful in another way: where the cause of action arose within the jurisdiction property belonging to the defendant in the Colony may be seized. This in principle resembles the Scotch procedure of arrestment to found jurisdiction. It is a very exceptional procedure, but under the circumstances of this Colony where much business is conducted with Chinamen, who come and go so easily to Canton, it is a very valuable one. The question of priority must, whenever the defendant has many creditors in the Colony, be exceedingly important, but as the Code is now drafted it is not free from doubt in the case of the procedure being made use of against immovables. Every point which could throw any light on the meaning of the sections was put before me, the question being ably argued on both sides.

In action 353, at the suit of Sui Tak Bank, the writ so called of "Foreign attachment" was issued on 9th October, the memorial was registered in the Land Office at 10 a.m. on 10th, and it reached the bailiff for execution at 10.46 a.m. on 13th.

In action 355 at the suit of Soy Kut Bank, the writ was issued on 11th October, reached the bailiff at 2.15 p.m. and was registered in Land Office at 3 on 11th.

The plaintiff in 353 contends that under sections 462, 463 of the code the registration of the memorial in the Land Office is the step necessary to give vitality to the writ: He did not in fact give the writ to the bailiff till 3 days after. The plaintiff in 355 contends that under section 458 of the code the important step is the handing of the writ to the bailiff for execution; his registration took place immediately afterwards.

The question is whether in the case of immovables the registration in the Land Office or the handing of the writ to the bailiff for execution is the important step.

Now section 458 deals with priority of writs: it runs as follows:—

(1) Where two or more writs issue at the suit of different plaintiffs, they shall take priority respectively according to the date and time at which they reach the hands of the bailiff for execution.

In deciding this question the most natural course would seem to be to refer to this section and establish the priority according to it, in which case the Soy Kut Bank would come

first. But the Sui Tak Bank in action 353, pinning their faith entirely on section 463, says that section 458 applies only to the case of moveables. It is to be noted that they were in fact first in the field—their procedure having been commenced on 10th whereas that of the plaintiff in action 355 was only commenced on 11th. The law usually favours the speedy creditor: yet he cannot prevail if his procedure is erroneous.

Now the reason advanced for saying that section 458 does not apply to the case of immovables is that section 457 provides that "every writ against moveables shall be executed by the Bailiff," and that the words "two or more writs" in 458 must naturally refer to the word "writ" in the section immediately preceding it: more especially as they appear to be linked by the reference to "execution by the Bailiff." It was further suggested that execution by a bailiff is appropriate only to the case of moveables. Against this there are two points urged: 1st, the absence of the connecting word "such," which is invariably used in drafting where one section is intended to refer to any subject dealt with in the section immediately preceding it.

And this is supported by a reference to the old Code No. 13 of 1873: in which section 82 (6) [now 457] begins "Every writ of Foreign Attachment against moveable property"—and section 82 (7) [now section 458] begins "Where two or more writs of Foreign Attachment issue." The first section is specific, the second general, and I do not think that, so far as these sections of the old code are concerned, the argument of the plaintiff in action 353 could stand. I see no reason to suppose that anything was intended by the merely verbal unsatisfaction in the new code. Secondly, the 2nd para. of section 458 which is new, provides that "no such writ," i.e., no such writ as is referred to in the 1st para. "shall take priority over a writ of execution" in an "action pending at the date of such writ of Foreign Attachment." Now if the word writ here were limited to moveable property there would be no similar provision in the case of writs against immovable property.

I now come to the argument that registration of the memorial in the Land Office is the essential to the vitality of the writ. Section 462 has the marginal note "Execution of writ against immovable property," which corresponds with the marginal note to section 457—"Execution of writ against moveable property": and obviously the first point taken is that the sections preceding 452 do not apply to execution against immovables:—The 2nd point is also obvious that as between two memorials registered in the Land Office priority is settled according to the time of registration: no express reference to this priority would be necessary in the code, were argument sound.

But the point of the argument of the plaintiff in action 353 was that this registration was essential to the vitality of the writ, because registration was always necessary in the case of execution against immovables; in other words that the execution by the bailiff in s. 453 was inapplicable to immovables, as the power of the bailiff to execute depended on registration.

I think the solution of the question before me is to be arrived at by following out the train of thought suggested by this argument. I use this language as the wording of the Code is by no means free from doubt, and it is only after giving the matter prolonged consideration that I have been able to arrive at a conclusion. In the first place, as the writ issued under this chapter of the code is not an ordinary writ of execution, special provisions must be made for executing it.

Section 457 provides for execution by the bailiff in the case of moveables.

There is no similar provision with regard to the writ against immovables. But I have already constructed the first words of section 448 (1) as not applicable to writ against moveables only, and it therefore follows from this that the works which determine priority "according to the date and time at which they reach the hand of the Bailiff for execution" "carry with them an implication that such writs against immovables are also to be executed by the bailiff." This of itself might not perhaps have decided the question unless the

reason of the thing were also in favour of this construction, and of its necessary consequences.

Let us see how judgments are to be executed.

Judgment for money is by section 371 to be enforced by attachment and sale of the debtor's property: the property liable to attachment being defined in section 377, and includes moveables and immovables. By section 394 the proper writ for execution is to be issued by the registrar, and by section 399 the court is to cause the property to be attached in the manner afterwards prescribed. By section 500 moveables are to be attached by actual seizure by the bailiff; and by section 401 the attachment in the case of immovables is to be made by prohibitory order, which by section 406 (2) is to be served on the defendant, and is to be registered in the Land Office if the property is already registered.

The form for execution, No. 30, addressed to the bailiff, provides for seizure in the case of moveables, and the service of prohibitory order—that in the case of immovables—form 32, being issued by the registrar on the application of the party. Turning now to the procedure called "Foreign Attachment," section 462 provides for the case of immovables a registration clause pure and simple. There must be some analogy between the process of execution in the case of this attachment and in the case of judgments. But if the argument of the plaintiff in action 353 is sound, the registration alone would be sufficient.

The writ issued under section 453 is "of general attachment" against all the defendant's property in the jurisdiction, moveable, and immovable, and it is in form 38 addressed to the bailiff. This form is short and does not contain express instructions as in the case of form 30, the ordinary writ of execution. The meaning of section 457 must, therefore, be that in the case of moveables the plaintiff is to seize, for there would be no other way in which he could execute the writ. But the process by way of prohibitory order is apparently not required either for moveables or immovables for there is no reference to it. But in the case of immovables there is to be registration in the Land Office, apparently also whether the property is already registered or not, if it is possible for immovable property not to be registered. This registration therefore stands in lieu of the prohibitory order. But it is impossible for it to stand by itself in lieu of the issue of the writ to the bailiff. If it were so the form of the writ would be meaningless.

The writ must be issued; and as it is addressed to the bailiff it must go to him; and as it must go to him priority must be decided in accordance with the rule laid down in s. 458 (1), although the writ which reached the bailiff second should reach the Land Office first. This, therefore, is the broad principle which this judgment must be held to decide. But in the case before me the facts are different, for the plaintiff in action 353 registered his memorial before handing the writ to the bailiff. Pursuing the analogy between the two procedures this is as if the plaintiff were, in the case of an ordinary judgment, to get the prohibitory order issued before the writ of execution is in the bailiff's hand. In this case, therefore, there is no such attachment as is contemplated under this chapter of the Code; for all attachments must be by process of Court. If Mr. Calthrop's ingenious argument were sound, such a course would inevitably be justified; but it would, as I have already said, render the words actually used in the sections and forms of the Code meaningless.

The real difficulty in the case arises from the omission of many words in the section which would have made their meaning clearer. In addition to those already noticed, there is this further omission, that although the writ to the bailiff requires him to attach, there seems, in the case of immovables, to be no further step which he is required to take. Undoubtedly this is an argument in favour of the plaintiff in action 353: but whatever may be the reason for this omission, I am clear that the formality of handing the writ to the Bailiff cannot be omitted and that the reception of this writ by the bailiff is a necessary initial step in all cases, whether the property attached be moveables or immovables, and therefore that in all cases priority to be determined.

as laid down in section 458, that is according to the time at which the writ respectively reach the bailiff for execution. Priority, therefore, rests with the plaintiff in 355.

Another difficulty arises which may be serious. The memorial in action 353 does not cover all the properties which apparently belong to the defendants, as the memorial in 355 refers to "sub-sec. 2 of Section D of reclamation to Marine Lot. 18." So far as I can see there is nothing in the rules which requires the plaintiff to specify the properties which he wishes to attach. The rules and forms are general, and apply to all property moveable or immovable belonging to the defendant within the jurisdiction. It seems to me, therefore, that the attachment created by the writ in 353 need not be limited to the properties specified in the memorial, but applies to this other property and both writs to any other property belonging to the defendant not specified in them. This point was not argued before me. It is right, however, that I should express my opinion on it; but the parties may apply, if they find it necessary, for the judgment on this point to be varied.

Mr. Pollock asked for immediate execution but his Lordship did not consider that was necessary, indicating that he gave judgment respecting all property which was registered.

On the subject of costs, his Lordship also decided priority should rest with the plaintiffs in the second action.

LUNG CHUNG v. POON MAN HING.

Mr. Sharp, K.C., in presenting this case to the court stated that the plaintiff firm (for whom he appeared) were building contractors carrying on business at 156 Wellington Street, Victoria, while the defendant was a gentleman who usually resides at 1 Seymour Road, Victoria. The claim was for work done and material supplied under a written agreement made in Hongkong on 17th August, 1903, whereby plaintiff firm agreed to build 12 Chinese houses for \$69,500. Plaintiffs had completed the houses, and on the contract a sum of \$7,518.31 was now due. Defendant was beyond the jurisdiction of the court and it was believed that he was concealing himself in order to avoid these proceedings.

Mr. J. E. Orange, architect, spoke to the contract being made, and Tam Yuk, managing partner of plaintiff firm, supported the opening statement of counsel.

Judgment was given for plaintiff, with a general attachment.

Tuesday, 7th November.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A WIDOW'S CLAIM.

Wong Cheung Shi sued Wong Hing Cheong for \$1,000, basing her claim on the loss occasioned through defendant detaining and still keeping from her a partnership book in which were entries relating to her deceased husband's connection with the firm of which defendant was manager. The business was carried on at 243 Des Voeux Road. Before her husband, who was a dealer in books, died he appointed her as his executrix, but when she applied to the defendant for the partnership book he said he wanted to look at it and promised to send it to her later; and repeated application was made for its return without avail.

Mr. W. J. Daniels appeared for plaintiff and Mr. D. V. Stevenson for defendant.

After hearing evidence, his Lordship gave judgment for defendant with costs.

Wednesday, 8th November.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

CHAN TING PO v. EXPARTE CHAN TANG.

Mr. Dixon, who appeared for the petitioning creditor, asked that the case stand over till next week, when he would apply for the rescission of the receiving order.

Mr. Wakeman offered no objection, and the request was acceded to.

WING ON v. EXPARTE TANG SHAN.

Mr. Goldring made application for a receiving order stating that the case had been adjourned from last week for further evidence. He now submitted an affidavit in which the firm wrote that they had suspended payment.

The receiving order was made.

APPLICATION FOR A DEBTOR'S DISCHARGE.

In the case of Choy Ching Li alias Tsoi Choi Chung exparte Lo Tui Chan, Mr. P. W. Goldring appeared on behalf of the debtor and applied for his discharge. In support of this application he read a number of affidavits. Debtor's second concubine deposed that the debtor paid to her father \$4,000 for her about six years ago. Out of that her father gave her \$1,500 as pocket money with which she purchased the greater part of the furniture, used to furnish the house in Gage Street. Subsequently she bought other furniture from time to time, spending in all about \$1,000. She lived with debtor in Gage Street, in Hollywood Road and in Wyndham Street, where, learning that he was in difficulties, she had the furniture moved to a flat in Elgin Street during debtor's absence at Canton. She did it without his cognisance and she did not communicate with him. While she lived in Wyndham Street she paid the rent through her amah. The rent collector's affidavit referred to receiving the rent from the amah, while the affidavits of coolies alluded to the removal of the furniture.

Mr. Goldring—I submit that in spite of the affidavits filed by the petitioning creditor it is clearly established by these affidavits that the furniture belongs to the woman, and also that the furniture was moved not on the 27th June but on the 3rd July, when debtor was away. There is nothing before your Lordship to disprove that. I submit that there is evidence that the woman made a claim on the furniture.

Mr. Dixon—I submit that the evidence clearly suggests that the bankrupt has committed an offence for which, if criminal proceedings be taken, he will undoubtedly be punished. In the event of criminal proceedings being taken we shall be able to obtain more evidence than is before your Lordship in these affidavits. These affidavits do not in any way show that the furniture belonged to the second concubine.

His Lordship—The question is—Are these affidavits sufficient to warrant me to set aside the order I made last week? It is not clearly shown that this property belonged to the concubine. If I were to express a contrary opinion I should be held to be receiving definite evidence that it is the property of the concubine. That I do not. There are a certain number of statements put forward to show where the property was, but these are not conclusive and not altogether satisfactory, more especially with regard to the claim of the concubine. I think the order must stand. That order was made on the 2nd November, and I don't see any necessity for varying it. The evidence must be supplied to the Crown in ten days, and it is for the Crown authorities to decide what is the value of that evidence.

Mr. Dixon—Does your Lordship feel disposed to grant an extension of the time to lay the facts before the Crown Solicitor? To-morrow is a general holiday. The ten days end next Monday.

Mr. Bonnar—There are two Sundays, and a general holiday within the ten days.

His Lordship—I can not give you much more.

Mr. Goldring—I submit there is nothing before the Court except an affidavit which I have proved to be untrue. I think your Lordship should limit the time.

His Lordship—I shall give to next Wednesday. That is two days. I can't give you more than that.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A PARTNERSHIP.

Ho Sui Kai sued Ho Kai for \$122, being money subscribed to a partnership and profit due to plaintiff. Mr. Beavis appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Master for the defendant, who raised a cross action. It appears that plaintiff and

defendant entered into a partnership for the performance of a certain work, the plaintiff contributing \$77.9) as capital and the defendant putting in labour and material. Eventually the work was completed, and its total value was found to be \$416. The defendant then went to plaintiff, who was entitled to have that sum divided between the defendant and himself, and giving him a statement, said—"Will you go and instruct a solicitor to write for this money?" That same evening defendant came and asked him to wait, as he had arranged for payment, producing a promissory note from the party for whom the work was done promising to pay within a week. At the end of that time plaintiff applied to the defendant for the money, when the latter replied—"Yes, I have had the money. I have spent it. I will pay you in a few days." Defendant put off plaintiff from time to time, compelling plaintiff to take this action.

Mr. Beavis pointed out that defendant had prevented plaintiff from recovering the money as the shop in question was now closed.

After hearing the parties, his Lordship suggested that the action be withdrawn; a suggestion which was acted upon by both parties.

THE AU TAU MURDER.

Lo Kun Mui, Lo Fat Hing and Lo Sze Mui were charged at Hongkong Police Court on November 6th with wilfully murdering Lo San Kin, at Au Tau, in the New Territory, on the 28th September.

Sergeant Willis stated that the first defendant struck deceased with a bamboo pole several times and knocked him down. When he fell to the ground the same defendant picked up a large stone and struck him on the head with it. He then got his brother, the second defendant, to assist in burying the body. While they were digging the grave, by night, the woman lighted their work with a candle.

Dr. Hunter deposed to examining the body of deceased on the 18th October. Chinese constable Fung Lung identified it in witness's presence as Lo San Kin. The deceased died from a multiple of injuries received, and the pole produced could have caused such injuries.

Li Ti said the first defendant was her great uncle, the second her father, and the third her mother. The deceased and first and second defendants were brothers. On the 28th Sept. the first defendant after exhuming a body returned to the house about five o'clock in the afternoon. An hour afterwards it was meal time, and the first defendant was absent. She called out—"Where is my first great uncle? Call him to take his meal." Then deceased abused her and said he did not like her to call the first defendant to take his meals. Deceased further said—"Take a measure of rice and an egg and go out and call his soul back. The third defendant then addressed deceased saying—"She only asked your brother to have a meal; you needn't have scolded her. If I go to Singapore my children will be treated worse than dogs."

Deceased told my mother she could go if she liked, after which he struck me and dragged my mother to the ground. He then picked up the cane pole produced and struck my mother with it. By this time the first defendant had returned, and he separated the deceased and my mother. Deceased then struck the first defendant twice with a pole before the first defendant snatched it from him and struck deceased with it about ten times. Deceased was knocked down and the first defendant then picked up a big stone which he threw at him. Shortly afterwards the deceased died. I then went to sleep, so I know nothing about the burial operations.

After hearing further evidence, his Worship committed the defendants for trial at the next Criminal Sessions.

The Japanese fleet at the recent review included 13 armoured vessels, 15 cruisers, 10 dispatch-boats, gunboats, etc., 8 converted cruisers, 26 destroyers a large number of torpedo-boats, a flotilla of submarines and 9 prizes, including the armoured vessels *Peresviet*, *Poltava*, *Nicholai I*, *Apraxine* and *Seniavine*.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

1st. November.

THE CANTON SCANDAL.

On the day following the seizure of Chau-Tung-Sang's properties here, Viceroy Shum ordered the seizure of all properties belonging to the families of Fu-Yau-Wing and Fu-Shui-Mui. It is now reported that the seizure of Fu-Shui-Mui's properties was illegal. Fu-Yau-Wing is the son of Fu-Yung (deceased), Chau-Tung-Sang's maternal uncle and his predecessor as Treasurer in the Hoffs yamen. He lived in Ching-Sui-Ho. Fu-Shui-Mui is not a descendant of Fu-Yung but a very distant relative of the Fu family. His father was formerly a merchant and died many years ago leaving a considerable fortune to his only son Fu-Shui-Mui. His father had no connection whatever with the Hoppo's treasury. When Fu-Shui-Mui heard of the seizure of Chau-Tung-Sang's properties he took no notice of the matter, and had not the slightest idea that a great calamity was about to befall his family. He consequently took no precautions whatever and removed absolutely nothing from his house. On the 6th ultimo he was arrested and all his belongings seized by order of the Viceroy. He has a very large family and an aged mother (75 years of age) who is dangerously ill through fright and sorrow. The family is now absolutely penniless and on the verge of starvation. The public, who sympathize with this unfortunate family, are very angry over the affair, and the local papers speak plainly concerning this unjust seizure.

Seven safes were found amongst Chau-Tung-Sang's and others' properties seized. On the 30th inst. the Kwong-chow prefect Chau Mong-tsang proceeded to the Sin-Han-Kuk with several deputies to break open the safes and take stock of their contents. In one of Chau's safes a jadestone bangle valued at 2,000 dollars was found; the second safe opened contained 400 dollars in notes and silver belonging to Fu-Yau-Wing. The third, a safe belonging to Poon-Man-hing, was empty. The Prefect is said to have been greatly disappointed and postponed the opening of the other safes.

CANTON LOTTERY.

Wei-Long-Shan, the late monopolist of the Canton lottery, having failed, has now petitioned the Viceroy for the cancellation of his contract which was to expire at the end of the next Chinese year. The royalty paid under this agreement was 11,000 dollars per Chinese moon. The Viceroy has now instructed the Sin-Han-Kuk to invite tenders for the monopoly. The privilege will be granted to the highest bidder.

2nd November.

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER'S BIRTHDAY.

H.E. Viceroy Shum has issued invitations to the Foreign Consuls and the prominent foreign employees of the Chinese Government to attend a banquet which will be held on the 10th day of the 10th moon at the Pa-chi-Hui Kuan (the Manchu Guildhall) on the occasion of the Empress Dowager's birthday.

THE TARTAR GENERAL.

H.E. the Tartar-General of Canton who went to Peking for a special audience by Imperial command, returned to Canton yesterday by the s.s. *Powan*. A gunboat had been sent to meet his Excellency at Hongkong but the Tartar-General, knowing the remarkable speed of the vessel (4 knots an hour with the tide), wisely decided to come up by the Commodious C. & M. S.S. Co.'s steamer *Powan*. His Excellency arrived here at 4 p.m. and was greeted on his arrival by all the Manchu and Banner officials and the foreign professors of the Imperial College, of which the Tartar-General is president.

His Excellency did not land till this morning however. The official landing took place at the Tien-Chi-Ma-Tan where all the provincial civil and military officials went to pay their respects and perform the Kow-Tow ceremony. After these formalities the Tartar-general went to his yamen escorted by Manchu soldiers and preceded by the usual crowd of coolies and children carrying the official paraphernalia.

AFRAID OF THE GODS.

Sometime ago the Chinese Government took over the Lam-Kaong temple near the East

gate for the purpose of transforming it into a large public school. The committee of the school have so far been unable to find workmen willing to undertake the removal of the two large clay josses which stand at each side of the principal gate. A sum of \$100 has been offered for their removal but no workman has as yet volunteered to take the risk of raising the joss' anger.

CHAU-TUNG-SANG'S CASE.

Another seizure was made yesterday by order of Viceroy Shum. The Kwong-Chow prefect escorted by several deputies and a considerable number of braves sealed a large house in Tin-Ping street in the old walled-city. The house was occupied by Taotai Wong. Another house was also seized in Ko-Yeong lane. On the 30th inst. the Leong-Ming-Kee paint shop was similarly seized. It is said that the occupants of these houses are likely to get into trouble for not reporting that the properties occupied by them belonged to Chau-Tung Sang.

CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

In going through the title deeds of the various properties purchased by the American Development Company the present directors of the railway have discovered, it is said, an enormous shortage. Whereas property to the value of tael 308,000 had been purchased by the Development Company, I understand only 123,000 taels worth of title deeds have been handed back, a shortage of 275,000 taels. It is reported that Viceroy Shum has cabled the matter to Sheng-Sheun-Wy, Minister of Railways in China, requesting him to settle the question with Mr. Cito.

CANTON-MACAO RAILWAY.

Lam-Tak-Yuen, the managing director of the Canton-Macao railway, has raised a capital sum of 2,000,000 dollars from the Chinese and is waiting for the Portuguese share in the capital. The latter are said to have raised nothing yet. Sheng-Sheun-Wy, Director-General of Railways, having recently instructed Lam to begin the work, Lam replied that the agreement with the Portuguese Government should be cancelled, as they have not subscribed the stipulated amount. It is said that Lam will shortly go to Peking to request the Wai-Wu-Pu to settle the matter with the Portuguese Minister.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Committee of the local Chinese Chamber of Commerce have bought a house which is to become the offices of the Chamber of Commerce, the present premises having been only temporarily occupied. The members appointed to carry out the necessary alterations have expressed the opinion that the building being too small, as little alteration as possible should be made. They propose that a large and suitable building should be erected as soon as circumstances permit and to sell the present building.

3rd November.

DARING ROBBERY.

The Po-Shang pawnshop situated in Cheung Kwai Fong street of the Sum-Cheng village, Poon-Yu district, has been established for a considerable time, has a large capital and has a flourishing business. There is a wide canal in front of the pawnshop and a small hill behind. The building is well constructed and is very strong. A small fort has been placed on the roof to protect it against attacks from robbers, etc. No robbers had ever dared to attack this place before, although it was known that many wealthy people kept their valuables there. On the afternoon of the 29th ultimo many strangers arrived in the village and a steam launch towing two junks was seen entering the river close by. The people soon found out that several hundred robbers had come to attack the famous pawnshop. These men were armed with rifles and proceeded to attack the fortified pawnshop. The pawnshop people rushed to the roof and sounded their gongs for assistance. The foks fired on the robbers from the roof and kept them at bay for over two hours. A division of the robbers was then sent on to the hill commanding the roof and from there they easily dislodged the defenders and managed to get into the building which they ransacked from top to bottom. They carried away valuables to the amount of 50,000 taels and were about to attack the neighbouring houses when the advice of the more prudent ones prevailed and they decided

to leave the place as daylight was approaching. The neighbours were in great consternation and their fears subsided only when the robbers were known to have left.

TAX ON PREPARED OPIUM.

On the 1st inst. Deputy Wong Shun was sent by the Viceroy to meet the Nam-Hoi and the Poon-Yu magistrates and all the merchants dealing in prepared Opium. These merchants were received in the reception hall of the Nam-Hoi yamen. It has been decided to levy a tax of four candareens per ounce of prepared Malwa or Patna opium. Every dealer shall send to the government a detailed report of the monthly sales and any sale effected which has not been entered will be charged twenty times the duty. The taxes are payable monthly and the licences renewable yearly.

THE WAICHOW REBELLION.

Owing to the Waichow insurrection threatening to become more serious Viceroy Shum has sent a despatch to Admiral Li Tsun instructing him to proceed without delay to the scene of the disturbance with several divisions of troops to quell the rebellion. It is reported that Admiral Li started on his mission two days ago.

A COLLISION.

At 1 a.m. yesterday a collision occurred between a passenger boat running between Chek hum and Kum-chuk and a steam launch running between Hong ong and Samshui. The collision occurred near Sam Leung. The passenger boat was sunk and the owner, one sailor, two males and one female passenger were drowned. All the cargo is lost. The master of the boat reported the matter to the military authorities of Kongmoon so as to prosecute the owner of the steam launch.

4th November.

SEIZURE OF PROPERTY.

The former Wei-Sing lottery monopoly here was let to Wei-Long-Shan, formerly assistant comprador to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation of Hongkong. He floated a company to work the concern, called the Wong Fung. This company has failed and is going through bankruptcy proceedings in Hongkong. Viceroy Shum has been actively prosecuting the partners here for the unpaid portion of the license fee still owing to the Government. A few days ago the manager of the Wong Fung Co. here, Leong-Cheong-Shui, received confidential information from some of his intimate friends who are officials, to the effect that Viceroy Shum was making preparations to seize all his properties and cause him to be arrested. He immediately packed up all his valuables, furniture, etc., and went to Hongkong with all his family. Leong is a very wealthy man. He has removed everything that could be carried away, even disposing of the flower pots of his garden. He has only left an empty house with those fixtures that were too massive or too heavy to be removed. Yesterday warrants were issued for the seizure of his properties but it was then too late. Leong's property was situated in the Po-Wah-Ching-Chenng-Yuk, just opposite Chau-Tung-Sang's family residence recently seized. It is a fine building with a spacious garden attached and is said to be worth at least 20,000 taels. This street is earning an unenviable notoriety and is now considered to be a very unlucky place to reside in. One of the Li family was ruined in this same street two years ago.

FOKJEN FOR THE JAPANESE.

The chief director of the high local colleges here, Ng Yuk Shan, Hanlin, received a telegram from Cheong Ya Chow, Minister of Education in Peking, stating that the throne and the cabinet are contemplating the advisability of offering the Fokien province to the Japanese in exchange for Liao-Tung. The telegram requests him to protest against this exchange being made.

Note.—This telegram is not very clear. I believe it refers to the privileges demanded by the Japanese for their subjects in the Liao-Tung peninsula, i.e. operating mines, railways, etc., and that the proposal above referred to is to grant these privileges to the Japanese in Fokien province instead.

WAS THERE A RESERVE PRICE?

Recently Messrs. Siemssen and Co. instructed A. V. Rozario, auctioneer, to dispose of galare

quantity of rice by auction in the Sam-Wai-Hang Godown at Fa-ti. The Sui-cheong firm was the highest bidder and the rice was knocked down to them. A certain sum as bargain money was deposited immediately in the hands of A. V. Rozario. Last week the Sui-cheong firm went to take delivery of the rice but Rozario refused to deliver the cargo. The Sui-cheong firm have addressed a petition to Viceroy Shum about the matter. The Viceroy has replied as follows:—

"The Sui-cheong being the highest bidder is entitled to the goods and Messrs. Siemssen and Co. did not act properly in refusing to deliver the cargo to them, as the Sui-cheong firm had acquired their rights by paying bargain money. I have also learned that this case has already been laid before the German Consul who has promised to request Messrs. Siemssen and Co. to pay back double the amount of the bargain money deposited. If you insist on the goods being delivered to you it would lead to a lawsuit which would entail a lot of trouble and expense. You should go to the German Consul and request him to press Messrs. Siemssen and Co. to pay you back double the amount of the bargain money."

TO STOP PIRACY.

In accordance with the new regulations all steam launches, and towing junks are to stop at all the military stations en route to be searched for firearms. One of the stations on the Fatshan river has reported to Viceroy Shum that the junks *Yuen Kee* and *Hang Kee*, which were being towed by steam launches, had refused to stop to be searched. Viceroy Shum has instructed the Commissioner of Customs to seize these two vessels for not complying with the regulations.

6th November.

EMPRESS DOWAGER'S BIRTHDAY.

A great banquet was held to-day at the Pa-Chi-Hui-Kuan in honour of the Empress Dowager's birthday. Numerous invitations had been sent to the prominent members of the foreign community. Two gunboats were placed at the disposal of the foreign guests. About thirty foreigners responded to the invitation, and a special landing was erected in front of the Pa-Chi-Hui-Kuan. The guests were received by a guard of honour, and the regimental trumpeters and drummers, who played an appropriate air as the guests marched through the entrance court towards the Reception Hall; where they were received by provincial officials. Tiffin was served in a lavishly decorated dining-room. The table was double "T" shaped and laid out in foreign style. The scene was gorgeous with native and foreign uniforms. H. E. the Tartar-General presided, Viceroy Shum being unavoidably absent owing to illness.

The following guests attended the Banquet: Mr. Huygen (Consul for Holland), Mr. Solange, Teyssier (Acting Consul for France), Dr. Walter (German Vice Consul), Mr. Zundel (Consul for Mexico), Commissioner Mayers, Deputy-Commissioner Russell, Dr. Davenport, Dr. Dupuy, Dr. Shelby, Dr. Razlag, Professor Leach, Professor Martel, Professor Heinberg, Mr. Dupuy, Attache of the French Consulate, Mr. Wyon (of the Canton Mint), Mr. Laprentz, Mr. Beat, Mr. Snewin, Reuter's Correspondent, Mr. Lindt, Adviser to the Canton-Hankow Railway Co., Lt. Noble, Commander of the *Moorhen*, Lt. de Vaisseau Jeannel, Commander of the *Argus*, Mr. Ogawa (Professor of Japanese at the Imperial College), the Director of the Telephone Co., and the Japanese Military Officers and Instructors of the Military College.

Amongst the prominent military and civil officials present were: H. E. The Tartar-General, H. E. the Provincial Treasurer, H. E. The ex Hoppo of Canton, Ouen Taotai, Wei Taotai, and Magistrate Shueh, foreign secretaries of His Excellency Viceroy Shum. The Prefect, Nam Hoi and Pun-Yu Magistrates, Admiral Cheong, General Li and other official heads of the different Government institutions of Canton.

Dr. Walter proposed the toasts of the Emperor and Empress Dowager and called for three cheers and a tiger. Ouen Taotai responded, thanking those present for honouring the function by their presence. In the course of his speech he mentioned the departure of the Special Mission as a sign that Their Majesties

were anxious to introduce reforms, and that the abolition of promotions through the literary examination, hitherto resorted to, showed the earnestness of purpose of Their Majesties to modernise China. Ouen Taotai asked the Chinese officials to drink to the health and happiness of the Foreign Sovereigns and to the prosperity of all the nations represented at the banquet.

7th November.

LINCHOW MASSACRE ENQUIRY.

I am informed that Wen Taotai has been ordered by Viceroy Shum to proceed to Linchow to investigate the sad affair. I understand Wen Taotai is going there with the American Consul General, and Mr. Snewin, Reuter's correspondent. The party is leaving Canton this afternoon or to-morrow morning.

NINETY-THREE INCOMPETENTS.

Sometime ago Viceroy Shum memorialized the throne against forty civil and fifty-three military officials declaring them to be avaricious and incompetent. On the 1st inst. a telegraph edict was received by Viceroy Shum authorizing him to deal with these officials in accordance with the memorial despatched. That is to say that Viceroy Shum is empowered to cashier, banish, degrade or temporarily dismiss them from the service. They are of all ranks.

MILITARY COLLEGE OPENED.

The new Two Kwang Military College was formally opened on the 4th inst.

EXTRAORDINARY ACCIDENT.

The Lieut.-Colonel at Ching-Yuen has shot himself by accident. It is said that to amuse himself he fired a shot at some hard substance, the bullet rebounded and struck him in the chest, and he has since died.

THE PATH OF REHABILITATION.

The provincial judge, Ching Yu-lok, who was degraded three steps for showing leniency towards Deputy Cheong who had tortured an innocent prisoner to death, has now been recommended to the Throne by Viceroy Shum for promotion. The Viceroy states in his memorial that Ching Yu-lok is an honest and competent official, having managed to save an important sum of money for the Government. Ching will be granted an Imperial audience and no doubt will be restored to his former rank.

BRAVE VILLAGERS.

A band of 150 robbers attacked on the 31st ultimo the Lin-Chi-Tong village and ransacked many houses. The villagers showed fight, however, and chased the robbers, capturing three of them. The robbers retreated towards the Leung-Ho village, where two more were captured. The villagers chased these desperadoes as far as the Fatshan railway station, where they dispersed. One of the villagers was wounded in the melee. If resistance was shown in every village visited by robbers their number would soon diminish.

NEW DAILY PAPER FOR CANTON.

A new native newspaper will shortly appear here. It will be called the *Kok-Chi-Po*. The first issue will be published on or about the 20th inst.

AN INTERESTING SIEGE.

A large band of robbers arrived in the Sin-Tong village by two steam launches and entered the principal pawnshop of the place. As they were about to leave the villagers arrived in great numbers and surrounded the building. A railway station being close by, a message was immediately sent to the nearest military station, by the railway telegraph. A strong force soon arrived on the scene and are assisting the villagers to capture the robbers. Three of the robbers, who attempted to force their way through the ring of soldiers and villagers, were captured. The others have barricaded themselves in the pawnshop and will not come out. On the other hand, the besiegers are afraid to go in. The steam launches left as soon as they saw there was going to be trouble and the robbers will no doubt be starved out of their fortress. The position is curious, indeed, and typically Chinese.

8th November.

VOLUNTEERS FOR CANTON.

As acts of brigandage are of frequent occurrence and the province generally is infested with robbers and bad characters, Viceroy Shum

decided to sanction the creation of a Volunteer Corps. He sent a despatch to the provincial judge instructing him to consult with the gentry to find suitable quarters for the men. The Viceroy has subscribed Tls. 2,000, the Treasurer \$1,000, the Salt Commissioner \$1,000, the provincial judge \$5,000, the Canton prefect Tls. 1,000 and the keeper of the temple of the Guardian Spirit of the city \$1,000. These sums will be used for the equipment and maintenance of the corps in Canton. The Government will make good any deficit arising through insufficiency of funds. The Viceroy adds that the matter must be taken up without delay. Members of the gentry, acting as directors, will receive taels 30 each for chair hire expenses. The magistrates of the different districts are instructed to raise money from their respective districts and to form a local volunteer corps.

THE LINCHOW MURDER.

American Consul Lay and party have not yet left Canton; they are leaving to-morrow. In connection with this sensational case I am informed that an Imperial edict has been received to-day from Peking, ordering that the Linchow prefect be degraded at once and that he be allowed ten days to have all the murderers arrested, failing which he will be further dealt with. The factoids of Nam Hung Chao, Shui-Chow-Fu and Linchow will, no doubt, be involved also.

KING'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS.

Preparations are actively being made for the celebration of the King's birthday. Invitations have already been issued and an elaborate programme has been prepared for the sports that are to be held on the Tennis grounds. Owing to the difficulty of laying a convenient floor for dancing, the *Al Fresco Ball* has been unavoidably postponed. I understand it will be given in the new ball-room of the Shameen Club Theatre, when the building is completed.

NATIVE HOSPITAL FOR CANTON.

It is reported that Lau-Luk-Hang and other doctors who hold European diplomas are initiating a movement for the construction of a native hospital in Canton on foreign lines. A meeting was held yesterday in the Canton Chamber of Commerce to which the leading merchants and gentry were invited, and a committee was appointed. The gentry and merchants unanimously approved the scheme and have promised to give their assistance and support. It is hoped that funds will be promptly raised and the building of the hospital commenced at an early date.

SPORT ON THE SHAMEEN.

The new recreation grounds laid out on the Shameen are being well patronized. A football match was played yesterday and a hockey match will be played on Saturday next. A tennis handicap is also on the cards, while the croquet handicap final was played off yesterday afternoon. Mr. J. Proton, a popular member of the French community here, was the winner; he was loudly cheered.

THE LINCHOW MASSACRE.

9th November.

Viceroy Shum has reported this affair to the Peking authorities by telegraph. H. E. has now received instructions from the Wai-Wu-Pu to take immediate action in view of the seriousness of the affair, and to have the guilty parties punished, officials and commoners to be treated alike. The Wai-Wu-Pu further instructs the Viceroy to prevent any disturbances arising through the boycott. It is said that four missionaries have left for Linchow to bring the wounded back. Dr. Machle and Miss Patterson arrived here this morning. Accounts of the origin of the affair are more conflicting than ever.

CHINESE LUNATICS FROM HONGKONG.

The Kwongchow prefect and the Nam-Hoi and Pun Yu magistrates have petitioned Viceroy Shum with reference to the insane Chinese that are sent back to Canton by the Hongkong Government. H. E. has appointed Shueh Yung Nien to settle the matter with H. B. M.'s Consul-General here. All the lunatics sent to Canton from Hongkong will be forwarded in future to Fong-ghan where there is an asylum for such people. Five dollars per month will be paid per head to the asylum for the lunatics' maintenance, and seven dollars will be allowed for the burial expenses of

those dying in the asylum. Should the number of insane sent not exceed ten the Nam-hoi and Pun-yu magistrates will defray expenses. Should the number of patients exceed that figure the expenses will be borne by the Sin-Hau-Kuk.

ANOTHER MISSIONARY AFFAIR.

In Kai-Ma-Tong village, in the Pun-yu district, a German missionary was recently prevented by the people to teach doctrine in the protestant church of that village. The church was surrounded by the mob who were armed with a variety of weapons and a serious affair was averted by the timely action of the Fa-yuen magistrate who, having learnt that the German missionary was being starved out in the besieged church, immediately sent a strong body of soldiers, to deliver him from his dangerous position. The German missionary was subsequently removed to the church at Toi-Hang, and the mob dispersed. It is reported that the Pun-yu and Fa-yuen magistrates are searching for the leaders of the affair to cause them to be arrested. The matter having been reported to Viceroy Shum, His Excellency has given instructions to Pun Yu Magistrate to protect at once the church and property of the mission at the above-named village.

A BOYCOTT ARMISTICE.

Several of the leading American merchants of Hongkong and Canton being desirous of coming to an understanding with the boycott committee have expressed their desire to the members of that association by letter. The boycott committee have replied accepting the proposition to discuss matters in view of a settlement of the boycott question, and have promised to select a meeting place after the 11th inst.

A POLITICAL SCARE.

It is reported that Viceroy Shum has issued a proclamation forbidding the boycott agitation, cartoons, etc., and warning the people not to interfere with or do harm to missionaries.

PAKHOI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

November 7th.

A FATAL ERROR.

A piratical craft, emboldened by several successful coups, the last of which had been committed on the 23rd ult. between this port and Hamchow, on a firewood junk, came across the guard-boat No. 6, named *Hong Kwok-cheong* on the evening of the 24th ult. Mistaking her for an ordinary trading junk, the pirates tried to board her, but the guard-boat gave them such a hot reception that the marauders turned and fled. The guard-boat in turn chased and captured the pirate boat, where sixteen pirates were found on board, out of a crew of over twenty. The remainder had escaped by jumping overboard, in which attempt they must have been drowned, as the night was exceptionally dark. The guard-boat, with the junk in tow, arrived here on the 27th ult. The prisoners were landed and forthwith escorted to Limchow to take their trial. On board the pirate junk several hundred dollars' worth of stolen goods were found, including fishing nets, wearing apparel, blankets, a few hundred strings of cash, etc. These goods were offered for sale at a cheap price later on.

LIMCHOW JAILS.

It is reported that the prisoners lodged in Limchow jails are accumulating in great numbers, and provision must soon be made for dealing with them as they are a great burden on the Government purse. Not a few are charged with serious crimes. Executions of prisoners happens now very seldom, while culprits from this port and other districts under the prefecture are being sent over almost daily. It is reported that the present sub-prefect is either too conscientious or he lacks energy.

THE TRIAD SOCIETY.

It is reported that the members of this nefarious society here and in the surrounding villages have never been so numerous as at present. This port is said to be full of them, and the authorities seem to be unable to distinguish them from the law-abiding section of the population. They are composed of active and inactive members. As far as the latter are

concerned, one might find them engaged in all sorts of callings, but the former are occupied in actual plunder. Most of the inactive members, it is true, were forced to enlist under threat, but they are nevertheless as dangerous as their active brethren at times of disturbance. A big gathering took place about two months ago in an eating house, where they were being entertained at lunch by a leader. When the authorities got wind of the affair the gathering was dispersed. There were over one hundred of them at that meeting.

A NEW CHAPEL.

The foundation stone of the Church Missionary Society's new Chapel is going to be laid on the 22nd instant. Mrs. E. B. Beauchamp, the widow of the late Rev. Mr. Beauchamp, is to perform the ceremony. The chapel is attached to the east end of the Mission House.

SHANGHAI'S POPULATION.

A census taken at Shanghai on October 14 shows the foreign population to be made up as follows. The increase in Japanese is remarkable. In 1900 there were only 736, and in 1895, 250. British in 1900 numbered 2,691. The figures given do not include the French settlement.

British	3,713
Japanese	2,157
Portuguese	1,329
American	991
German	785
French	393
Russian	354
Austro-Hungarian	158
Italian	148
Spanish	146
Danish	121
Norwegian	93
Swedish	80
Swiss	80
Dutch	58
Belgian	48
Greek	32
Turkish	26
Roumanian	12
Brazilian	8
Venezuelan	7
Indian	568
Malay, &c.	171
Corean	8
Persian	6
Sundry	3

Total ... 11,497

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF GAME, ETC., IN CHINA.

A special meeting of this Society was held at Shanghai on Oct. 31.

The Society was started in 1899 and has, with the energetic assistance of Mr. Roher, Commissioner of Customs in Shanghai at that time, been the means of inducing the authorities to prohibit the export of pheasant skins. The Society has also done good work in impressing upon the Municipal Council the importance, from a food supply point of view, of regulating the sale of game in the Municipal Markets, and establishing a close season as far as sale was concerned.

Mr. W. V. Drummond mentioned the fact that steamers leaving Shanghai often took quantities of game away from the port in the middle of summer—in the breeding season. He suggested that moral pressure be brought to bear upon the agents or representatives of such steamers.

After a short discussion, Mr. W. D. Little proposed and Mr. Cecil Holliday seconded: That the Society be dissolved and that the funds in hand be handed to the Shanghai Gun Club with a request that they accept the same and therewith endeavour to carry out the objects for which the Society was formed.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Messrs. Hartigan, Marple, Rhode, and Guitierrez, a Manila law firm, receive for defending in a land claim the sum of 200,000 pesos. This, says the *Cablencus*, is the biggest fee ever paid to lawyers in the Philippines.

COMPANIES.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of members of this society was held at noon on Nov. 4th at the offices of the society, Queen's Buildings. There were present: Messrs. H. W. Slade (Chairman), A. G. Wood, N. A. Siebs, A. Forbes and S. H. Medhurst (directors), W. G. Saunders (secretary), J. Y. V. Vernon, F. D. Goddard, A. B. Rouse, C. M. G. Burnie, J. A. Jupp, W. H. Gaskell, F. P. Hett, J. C. Peter, H. M. Tibbey, H. Carvalho and Ho Fook.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting, also the resolution which has been published concerning the proposed amalgamation with the China Traders' Insurance Company.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the adoption of the resolution said—Gentlemen, the special resolution which you have just heard read may seem to you rather long and somewhat difficult to comprehend, but it has been carefully settled by our legal advisers, and when studied it is really very simple. Reduced to ordinary phrases it practically means that the society takes power to enter into partnership arrangements with other marine insurance companies, to purchase shares in such companies, and generally to invest in such manner as may be determined. We have already in our articles of association an investment clause which is a sufficiently full one and would seem at first sight to authorise the purchase of shares in other marine insurance companies, but we are advised that it is very doubtful if this authority is valid unless also conferred by the memorandum of association, and we, therefore, seek to alter our memorandum by adding to the objects of the Society the further objects detailed in the resolution. While our main reason for seeking these additional powers is to put ourselves in a position to purchase for the Society the shares of the China Traders' Insurance Company and to carry out the scheme referred to in the circular letters issued to the Society's shareholders under the dates of the 29th August and the 17th October last, yet, quite apart from this scheme and whether it be carried through or not, we think it very necessary that we should have these powers and that all doubt as to the validity of our investment clause should be removed. It will not be out of place, however, if I take this opportunity of saying a few words with reference to this proposal to purchase the shares, or rather the majority of the shares, of the China Traders' Insurance Company. Although our circulars of the 29th August and the 11th October were very carefully worded and set out the proposal in precise terms, yet there seems to be a good deal of misapprehension in the minds of the general public as to what will be the actual effect of the scheme when carried through. First I may say that although the interests of the two companies may be amalgamated there is under the scheme no amalgamation of the two companies themselves. Each will retain its constitution unimpaired with its own articles of association, its own seal and its own board of directors. Each, we hope, will retain its constituency unimpaired. Those that now insure with the China Traders need not cease to insure with the China Traders because the Society becomes a shareholder in that Company. They will still be able to get China Traders' policies and all their contracts with that Company will remain in full force. It is true that in Hongkong, in London, in Shanghai or in Yokohama they may have to come to a different door and find a different man at the receipt of custom, but that will be all the difference, and in other places where there are mercantile agencies we hope that these will continue to do the business of the two companies in just the same way as at present. We further hope to make such arrangements that it will be quite immaterial to everybody concerned (whether shareholders or constituents of either company), as to which company does the business. The idea is that with one set of premises and one staff instead of two sets of premises and two separate staffs

the ratio of charges to premium will be considerably reduced and the ratio of profit to premium correspondingly increased, that under identical underwriting management much of the labour and money which is at present wasted in securing protection against excess lines will be saved, and that energies which are at present to some extent directed against each other in competition will in future be applied towards a common end. I am glad to inform you that we received a telegram from our London Branch last Tuesday, to the effect that, in response to a circular issued in London to shareholders there on the lines of our circular of the 11th October and asking for an expression of opinion for or against the proposed scheme, 330 votes had been received in favour of the scheme and only one vote against, whereas only 44 votes remained unrecorded. We have not sent out voting papers here, as only the votes of shareholders at this meeting in person or by proxy have any effect in passing a special resolution, but we have proxies here from a good many shareholders in case of need, so that I feel sure that the great majority of the Society's shareholders are in favour of the scheme. By the 1st December we shall know what proportion of the China Traders' shareholders accept our offer, and I have no doubt that the great majority will do so.

Mr. JUPP seconded the proposition, which was agreed to unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—A confirmatory meeting will be held at noon on Monday, the 20th November.

THE TEBRAU PLANTING CO.

The final meeting of the Tebrau Planting Company, Ltd., was held in the office of the liquidators, Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son, Queen's Buildings, on Nov. 7. Mr. J. A. Jupp presided and others present were Messrs. P. C. Potts, Lau Chu Pak, Wong Man Lam, J. D. Cottar, and J. A. Tarrant.

The report stated that according to the liquidators there was a net balance of capital after paying and providing for all liabilities, of £43,685.09 which amount admitted of their returning to the shareholders 45.34 per cent of their capital, equal to two dollars twenty-six and seven-tenths cents per five-dollar share.

THE CHAIRMAN—The accounts speak for themselves, and it is unnecessary to enlarge upon them. Shareholders can see how the money has been disposed of, and how we stand. I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

No questions were asked, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts. Mr. LAU CHU PAK seconded, and the motion was unanimously adopted.

THE CHAIRMAN—There is one other small matter which has to be decided, and that is what is to be done with the books and papers of the Company. It is provided by law that the shareholders should say what must be done with them. I suggest they be given to the liquidators. We could have them burned if you like.

Mr. POTTS—No, no. Give them to the liquidators.

This the shareholders agree to do.

The CHAIRMAN—That definitely finishes the Tebrau Planting Company.

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The *Peking Tientsin Times* says:—We are pleased to be able by the courtesy of the local office to present our readers with the following official statement of accounts to be presented at the annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Limited, which will be held in London, on Friday, 27th October, 1905, when the directors' report and accounts for the financial year ending February 28th, 1905, will be submitted.

EXTRACT FROM DIRECTORS' REPORT

The net result of the year's transactions shows a balance to the credit of profit and loss account of £153,355, made up as follows:—

Net profit, after providing for all charges in China	£204,398
Add balance brought forward from last year	£1,396
Gross receipts in London	5,690
	£ 7,086
	£211,484

Deduct expenditure in Europe, viz.:—Salaries, stores, &c.	£ 6,085
Debentures, interest	27,794
Debentures, redemption	10,000
Directors' fees	3,250
Law costs estimated at	11,000
Leaving a net balance of	£58,129
	£153,355

Which the directors recommended should be appropriated as follows:—

In placing to reserve for depreciation ..	£49,000
In paying a final dividend of 1/- per share (free of tax)	50,000
Making a dividend of 10 per cent. for the year with the interim dividend of 1/- per share paid on 22nd June, 1905	50,000
And carrying forward	13,355
	£153,355

HONGKONG CHESS CLUB.

The annual meeting of this club was held at the Cafe Weismann on Nov. 8th. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (president), presided, and a number of members were present.

The PRESIDENT stated that members had before them the statement of accounts for the year 1905, and they would observe from that statement that the balance carried forward (\$161.46) was bigger than before. This increase was due to the fact that the club had no longer to pay any rent for their premises, which should be considered satisfactory. He was sorry to say there had been a difficulty to persuade people to join the tournaments. During the past summer they had attempted to get one up, but met with such a poor response that it was impossible to hold it. He hoped now the winter had begun that people would be somewhat enthusiastic in the cause of chess with the drop of the barometer, and that they would have some interesting tournaments this season. The accounts had been made out by Mr. Danenberg, the hon. treasurer, and kindly audited by Mr. T. C. Gray. They spoke for themselves, and without commenting further on them, he moved that they be passed.

Lt. Col. JOSLING seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The following programme for the ensuing season was agreed upon:—A Championship Tournament is to be played, the winner at the conclusion (the best out of three games) to take the prize of \$15. A match of 20 games to be played, not more than two games against the same player, for a first prize of \$10 and a second of \$5. It was left with the hon. treasurer to arrange if possible for a match against a team from the Club Lusitano, the team to be adjudged the winners who get the best out of three games. The secretary was instructed to see if he could arrange matches with the Club Germania and the Shanghai Chess Club, also with players at Canton, while Lt.-Col. Josling promised to see if any teams representing the navy and army would be willing to try conclusions with a team from the club.

It was decided that Club meetings should be held on Monday evenings from 5 till 7 o'clock; on Wednesdays from 9 till eleven, and on Saturdays (at Kowloon) from 8.30 till 11 p.m.

Retiring officers of the club were elected *en bloc* for the ensuing year, and the name of Mr. Moses was added to the committee.

The PRESIDENT—That is all the business, gentlemen. I am much obliged for your attendance.

A Tientsin paper says—The Pao Huang-hui or Protect the Emperor party in the South have telegraphed to a certain prince about the movements of the Ko Ming-yang (to change the order of heaven) or anti-dynastic party, and urging the prince to take all possible precautions.

A SERIOUS CURRENCY QUESTION

New Kwangtung cents appear to be circulating in Hongkong now in much greater number, and it is to be hoped that we are not to suffer as Shanghai seems to have done, according to the following letter in the *N. C. Daily News*:—
Sir,—You have recently published a notice from livery-stable keepers of increased charges and an appeal from the carpenters' guild for higher wages; the reason given in both cases being the higher prices which have now to be paid for necessities. That the cost of living has of late considerably increased among the Chinese here there can be no doubt. What then is the cause of this rapid enhancement of prices?

In part it has, no doubt, been caused by the recent rapid growth of Shanghai, because supplies previously ample are now inadequate to meet requirements and prices consequently rise. But increased demand soon results in increased supply, and the growth of the population is not in itself sufficient to explain so general and so considerable a rise as has taken place. As the result of careful enquiries I am satisfied that this is almost entirely due to the reckless unlimited coinage of 10-cash pieces by the various provincial mints, whose eagerness to gain present profits blinds them to the inevitable consequences of their action. Eighteen months ago \$1 changed for 840 cash, and Kwangtung 10-cash pieces, because they bore the inscription "100 equal \$1," were accepted as of the value of 8 cash only. To-day \$1 changes for 1,050 cash, and these coins are worth over 10 cash each, i.e., within eighteen months the value of the currency employed by almost the entire population of this empire has depreciated no less than 27 per cent, and 12 or 13 cash are required to-day to purchase what could be obtained for 10 cash a year and a-half ago, and if the information given me be correct there is no knowing when this depreciation will end. It is stated that so long as the ratio of exchange does not fall below 140 to 150 of these 10-cash pieces to the dollar, the provincial mints will find it profitable to coin them. The prospect of a possible further enhancement of 50 per cent in prices is appalling, in view of the distress which must inevitably result to natives and foreigners alike, and it would seem that active steps should at once be taken to impress on the Central Government the suicidal character of the policy being followed by the provincial authorities, and to induce it to take the necessary remedial action.

C. M. S. BAXTER SCHOOLS:

ANNUAL SALE OF WORK.

On Nov. 7th the annual sale of work in aid of the C. M. S. Baxter Schools took place in the City Hall. This long established institution extending back over a period of twenty years and more, has invariably enjoyed a large measure of public support, and yesterday's sale proved no exception. The thirteen stalls were arranged round the sides and down the centre of the hall, and as each was laden with a profusion of fancy goods, attractively displayed, the result was very pleasing to the eye. In charge of the various stalls were:

Mrs. Bateson Wright, Mrs. Lammert, Mrs. Herbert Lammert and Mrs. Seth.

Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Hatton and Mrs. Ross. Mrs. Edward, Mrs. Colgrove, Miss Hazeland. Mrs. Chatham, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Lambell. Mrs. Peter, Mrs. Turner and Miss Berkeley.

Lady Berkeley and the Misses Berkeley. Mrs. Bell, Miss Penruddock, Miss Blair. Mrs. Louts, Mrs. Goetz, and Mrs. Fuchs. Miss Bowley, Mrs. Irving and Mrs. Davis. Mrs. Hancock, Miss Hancock and Mrs. Saunders.

Mrs. Swan, Mrs. Tooker and Mrs. Badeley. Mrs. Pritchard and others.

Refreshment stall—Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Gershom Stewart, Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Cruickshank.

Grab Bags—Miss Armstrong and the Misses Seth.

The sale was well attended and among the patrons was H.E. the Governor.

SHANGHAI RACES.

FIRST DAY—6th November.

The results of Monday's racing at Shanghai were specially telegraphed as follows by our Shanghai correspondent. (Perfect weather: dry course; large attendance).

MALOO PLATE.—For China ponies. Value Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Hokoku (Mr. Cumming) ... 1
The Limit (Mr. Zahn) ... 2
Tiara (Mr. Burkill) ... 3

This was a half mile race, the time being 59 2-5 seconds.

CRITBION STAKES.—For Chinese ponies; Value, Tls. 400; second Tls. 100; third, Tls. 50.

Heather King (Mr. Cumming) ... 1
Celtic (Mr. Fearon) ... 2
Ard Patrick (Mr. Johnstone) ... 3

The distance of this race was one mile, and the time 2 min. 51-5 secs.

The MAIDEN STAKES.—For China ponies that have never run at any meeting. Value, Tls. 400; Second, Tls. 100; Third, Tls. 50.

Bicester (Mr. Johnstone) ... 1
Lonely Knight (Mr. Wulleumier) ... 2
Sunblink (Mr. A. Crighton) ... 3

Three quarters of a mile race in which the time was 1 min. 31 4-5 secs.

The CLUB CUP.—For China ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 25; third, Tls. 25.

Minheimer (Mr. Hayes) ... 1
Blair Athol (Mr. Cumming) ... 2
Argante (Mr. Meyerink) ... 3
Sphere (Mr. Zahn) ... 3

There was a dead heat between Argante and Sphere for third place. The two miles' course was covered in 4 min. 30 2-5 secs.

The JOCKEY CUP.—For China ponies that have never won a race. Value, Tls. 200; second Tls. 50; third Tls. 25.

Czikos (Mr. Schnorr) ... 1
Estrella (Mr. Hooper) ... 2
Leo (Mr. Railton) ... 3

Course, one mile; time, 2 m. 8 1-5 secs.

THE FAH-WAH STAKES.—For all China ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Jetsam (Mr. Burkill) ... 1
Norman King (Mr. Cumming) ... 2
Polka (Mr. Wulleumier) ... 3

Course, one and a half mile; time, 3 mins. 21 secs.

THE SHANGHAI GOLD CHALLENGE CUP.—Presented. Value, 500 Guineas. For China ponies, being bona fide griffins at date of entry.

To be won twice in all by ponies the bona fide property of the same owner or owners. Entrance, Tls. 10. First pony to receive Tls. 300, second pony, Tls. 100, and third pony, Tls. 50, until the Cup is finally won, when the second pony will receive 75 per cent. and the third pony 25 per cent. of the entrance fees.

Mikosh (Mr. Meyerink) ... 1
Iron King (Mr. Cumming) ... 2
Gaelic (Mr. Fearon) ... 3

Course, one and a quarter miles; time, 2 mins., 46 3-5 secs.

The AUTUMN CUP.—For China ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Cotswold (Mr. Johnstone) ... 1
Coronet Rose (Mr. Hayes) ... 2
Rhone (Mr. Wulleumier) ... 3

Course, one and a quarter miles; time, 2 mins. 40 1-5 secs.

The WHANGFOO STAKES.—For China ponies being bona fide griffins at date of entry. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Umatilla (Mr. Wulleumier) ... 1
Diamond King (Mr. Cumming) ... 2
Cardiff (Mr. Burkill) ... 3

Course, one and a half miles; time, 3 mins. 26 secs.

SECOND DAY.

The races were resumed Tuesday in bracing weather, and before a large attendance. Our correspondent telegraphs the following results:—

The NORTHERN CUP.—For China Ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Friendship (Mr. Burkill) ... 1
Coriander (Mr. Moller) ... 2
Tiara (Mr. A. Crighton) ... 3

Three quarters of a mile race. Time 1 min., 31 secs.

The CHINA CUP.—For China Ponies, Value Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Mikosh (Mr. Meyerink) ... 1
Lonely Knight (Mr. Wulleumier) ... 2
Aethelbert (Mr. Midwood) ... 3

This was a one mile race; the time being 2 mins., 10 secs.

The SHANGHAI ST. LEGER.—For China Ponies. Value, Tls. 750; second, Tls. 150; third, Tls. 100.

Lavender (Mr. Burkill) ... 1
Czardas (Mr. Meyerink) ... 2
Cotswold (Mr. Johnstone) ... 3

A one and three quarter mile race. Time, 3 mins., 48 4-5 Secs.

The BRITISH NAVY CUP.—For China Ponies. Second Tls. 100; third, Tls. 50.

Bicester (Mr. Johnstone) ... 1
Sunblink (Mr. A. Crighton) ... 2
Glen Sannox (Mr. Dalglish) ... 3

Course, seven furlongs; time, 1 min., 50 4-5 secs.

The SHANGHAI STAKES.—For China Ponies. Forced entry—First to receive 70 per cent. second 20 per cent. and third 10 per cent.

Gadfly (Mr. Burkill) ... 1
Argante (Mr. Meyerink) ... 2
Ard Patrick (Mr. Johnstone) ... 3

The time for this event, over a mile and a half course, was 3 mins. 20 2-5 secs.

The RACING STAKES.—For China Ponies Value Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Celtic (Mr. Fearon) ... 1
Invincible Rose (Mr. Hayes) ... 2
Kildonan (Mr. Diestel) ... 3

Course, one mile and a quarter; time, 2 mins. 44 secs.

The LLAMA MIAU STAKES.—For China Ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Ohio (Mr. Moller) ... 1
Blair Athol (Mr. Cumming) ... 2
Polka (Mr. Wulleumier) ... 3

These were the only three starters in this event the distance being one mile and three quarters; and the time, 3 min. 50 secs.

The SYCEE STAKES.—For China Ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Sunblink (Mr. A. Crighton) ... 1
Cardiff (Mr. Burkill) ... 2
Counsel (Mr. Ellis) ... 3

Course, one mile and a quarter; time, 2 min. 43 1-5 secs.

The SICCAWEI PLATE.—For China Ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Heather King (Mr. Cumming) ... 1
Jetsam (Mr. Burkill) ... 2
Coronet Rose (Mr. Hayes) ... 3

THIRD DAY.

Our Shanghai correspondent telegraphs the results of the third day's racing as follows (Perfect weather, small fields, large attendance):—

The FLYAWAY PLATE.—For China ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Ard Patrick (Mr. Johnstone) ... 1
Heather King (Mr. Cumming) ... 2
White Blaze (Mr. P. Crighton) ... 3

This was a seven furlong race, the time being 1 min., 48 1-2 Secs.

The RACE CLUB CHALLENGE CUP.—For China ponies being bona fide griffins at date of entry. To be won at two consecutive meetings, or three times in all by ponies, the bona fide property of the same owner or owners. Value Tls. 500: First pony to receive Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25 until the cup is finally won.

Sunblink (Mr. A. Crighton) ... 1
Gaelic (Mr. Burkill) ... 2
Bicester (Mr. Johnstone) ... 3

Course, one and a quarter miles; time, 2 mins. 41 Secs.

The COSMOPOLITAN CUP.—For all China ponies. Value Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Norman King (Mr. Cumming) ... 1
Cedric (Mr. Fearon) ... 1
Trittenheimer (Mr. Hayes) ... 2

There was a dead heat between Norman King and Cedric for first place. Course, one mile and three quarters; time, 3 mins. 54 1-5 seconds.

The GRAND STAND STAKES.—For China ponies being bona fide griffins at date of entry. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Silvio (Mr. Burkill) ... 1
The Trout (Mr. Midwood) ... 2
Lonely Knight (Mr. Wulleumier) ... 3
Course, three quarters of a mile; time, 1m. 33 1-5s.

The PARI-MUTUEL CUP.—For China ponies. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Argante (Mr. Meyerink) ... 1
Coronet Rose (Mr. Hayes) ... 2
Comanche (Mr. Zahn) ... 3

Course, one mile and a half; time, 3m. 18 3-5s.

The MANCHU STAKES.—For China ponies, bona fide griffins at date of entry, that have run at this meeting and not won a race. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Roland (Mr. Meyerink) ... 1
Marcobrunner (Mr. Hayes) ... 2
Blackboy (Mr. P. Crighton) ... 3

Distance, one mile and a quarter; time, 2 min. 42 secs.

The CONSOLATION CUP.—China ponies that have run at this meeting and not won a race. Value, Tls. 250; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Coriander (Mr. Moller) ... 1
White Blaze (Mr. P. Crighton) ... 2
Nithsdale (Mr. Johnstone) ... 3

A mile and a quarter race, in which the time was 2 min. 41 secs.

The CHAMPION SWEEPSTAKES.—For all China ponies, winners at this meeting. Value, Tls. 800; second, Tls. 200; third, Tls. 100.

Celtic (Mr. Fearon) ... 1
Cotswold (Mr. Johnstone) ... 2
Ohio (Mr. Moller) ... 3

Course, one mile and a quarter; time, 2 min., 39 secs. A tremendous upset in this race.

The NIL DESPERANDUM CUP.—For China ponies that have run at this meeting and not won a race. Value, Tls. 200; second, Tls. 50; third, Tls. 25.

Marcobrunner (Mr. Moller) ... 1
Tiara (Mr. Burkill) ... 2
Janos (Mr. Reid) ... 3

This race was over a course of seven furlongs, the time being 1 min., 50 secs.

ANALYSIS OF OWNERS.

Messrs. 1st 2nd 3rd
John Peel ... 4 1 5
G. H. Potts ... 3 4 —

Quebec ... 3 2 2
Marius ... 3 2 1
Middy ... 2 1 1

Columbia ... 2 1 1
Nephew ... 2 1 1
The ring ... 2 — 1

Robson ... 1 2 —
Oswald ... 1 2 —
Common and Robson ... 1 1 2

Kanuck ... 1 — —
Oregon Stables ... 1 — —
J. M. D. ... 1 — —

B. Robertson ... 1 — —
Bupoy ... — 3 1
Carl ... — 2 1

Evans ... — 1 1
Henry Morris ... — 1 1
Durgor ... — 1 1

Charley ... — 1 —
Wide ... — — 2
Bellum ... — — 1

Broughton and Jabez ... — — 1
Fernando ... — — 1
Elms ... — — 1

Spring ... — — 1
Ruros ... — — 1
Fearon ... — — 1

ANALYSIS OF WINS.

1st 2nd 3rd
Sunblink ... 2 1 1
Heather King ... 2 1 —

Celtic ... 2 1 —
Bicester ... 2 — 1
Mikosh ... 2 — —

Cotswold ... 1 1 1
Argante ... 1 1 1
Jetsam ... 1 1 —

Norman King ... 1 1 —
Coriander ... 1 1 —
Marcobrunner ... 1 1 —

Ard Patrick ... 1 — 2
Ohio ... 1 — 1
Hokoku ... 1 — —

Minheimer ... 1 — —
Czikos ... 1 — —
Umatilla ... 1 — —

Friendship ... 1 — —
Lavender ... 1 — —

	1st	2nd	3rd
Gadfly	1	—	—
Roland	1	—	—
Cedric	1	—	—
Silvio	1	—	—
Lonely Knight	—	2	1
Coronet Rose	—	2	1
Blair Athol	—	2	—
Cardiff	—	1	1
Gaelic	—	1	1
White Blaze	—	1	1
Estrella	—	1	—
Iron King	—	1	—
Diamond King	—	1	—
Czardas	—	1	—
Invincible Rose	—	1	—
The Trout	—	1	—
Tiara	—	1	—
The Limit	—	1	—
Polka	—	—	2
Sphere	—	—	1
Leo	—	—	1
Rhone	—	—	1
Aethelbert	—	—	1
Glen Sannon	—	—	1
Kildonan	—	—	1
Counsel	—	—	1
Trittenheimer	—	—	1
Comanche	—	—	1
Black boy	—	—	1
Nithsdale	—	—	1
Janos	—	—	1

MURDER OF MISSIONARIES NEAR CANTON.

(Written for the *Weekly Press*.)

On October 28th there were murdered at Linchow, on the North River, Canton district of South China, four American missionaries and a little girl, daughter of one of them. [The victims' names are set out in the telegram published below.—Ed.]

There is a good deal of conflicting evidence with regard to the affair. It comes from the survivors, Dr. Machle and Miss Patterson, both medical missionaries, and from Chinese sources.

First reports, from various Chinese, said that Dr. Machle had, on the morning of the massacre, insulted a "joss" that was being carried by a noisy procession past the Hospital. The native magistrate states that Dr. Machle objected to the noise on behalf of his patients, and took away three small cannon (or Chinese bombs?). Dr. Machle himself avers that all he did was to remonstrate about the unauthorised erection of a match on some ground belonging to the mission.

Not unnaturally, the victims being American, there has been deduced a connection between the massacre and the boycott; but this is not believed to have been the case. Linchow had not yet been seriously troubled with the boycott question. The trouble was purely a religious one, encouraged by the missionary's tactless conduct, the native prejudices being inflamed by the stale rumour that the foreign doctors killed patients in order to make medicine from their bodies. An articulated skeleton and a preserved foetus subsequently found in the laboratory confirmed the natives in this ghastly mistake. The things were seized and exhibited, and wrought the mob to frenzy.

The hospitals and other mission buildings were set on fire, and the missionaries took to flight. They hid in a cave in or near a native monastery; Dr. Machle tells how he got into a well and stood under water with only his face above it. He does not, apparently, know how the others were hidden. They were all (except Miss Patterson) dragged out and murdered. Gruesome details, many undoubtedly imagined, are given of the manner of their death; but other evidence is to the effect that there were none of the fiendish tortures of the 1900 affair. Death was mercifully speedy.

The fact that none of the French or Catholic missionaries were attacked appears to have prompted an American Baptist missionary at Canton into a grave indiscretion. He openly suggests that the Fathers were *particeps criminis*; that the actual murderers were Catholics; and that their pastors refused to interfere, although they knew what was going on. Such statements are a disgrace to Christianity; and have aroused great indignation.

A commission of enquiry, consisting of Chinese and Americans, is taking evidence.

A telegram to the *Daily Press*, dated Shanghai, 3rd November said:—In reply to your enquiry re Linchow massacre, I have made enquiries, and learn that the trouble originated through a remonstrance made by Dr. Machle when the joss procession was passing the American Hospital. The "music" and crackling fire disturbed the patients, and Dr. Machle went out and asked the leaders to stop the noise while in that neighbourhood.

The mob grew angry, and attacked the hospital. They set fire to the adjoining and other mission buildings.

The victims are as follows:—

Killed, five—

Mrs. Machle and daughter
Reverend John R. Peale and
Mrs. Peale
Miss Eleanor Chestnut.

Wounded, two—

Dr. E. C. Machle
Miss Elda G. Patterson.

These escaped after receiving severe wounds. I have heard nothing about Rev. R. F. Edwards and wife. They were probably at a distance, and not molested.

The French gunboat *Vigilante* left this morning.

The *Callao* is leaving this evening.

The gunboat will not be able to reach the scene of the disturbance, as the river is too shallow.

The nearest telegraph station is at Tinpak, two days' journey from Linchow.

Parties of enquiry have been despatched by both Governments to the place of the massacre.

The American Consul has returned from Hongkong, and has sent lengthy cablegrams to Peking and Washington.

Our Canton correspondent writes, under date 2nd inst.:—I cabled you this morning to the effect that two American Missionaries, two ladies and one child had been brutally murdered at Linchow on the North river. I have gathered the following particulars concerning this dastardly outrage. It appears that on the 20th ultimo the people living in the street wherein is the American Missionary Hospital, were celebrating the feast of the God of Fire. A quantity of crackers were let off in the vicinity of the hospital building causing great annoyance to the patients who could not sleep.

The missionaries protested and requested the people to go and fire their crackers further away. The people who were already not too friendly with the missionaries on account of the boycott, got very angry and a considerable mob gathered together and completely surrounded the Hospital Building. A young boy threw a stone at the house, and the mob soon followed this bad example, shouting at the same time to the people to kill the flower-coloured devils (meaning Americans). The mob set fire to the hospital and the adjoining mission-house and brutally murdered two men and two women and one child. The women and child were stripped of their clothing and were hung up in a conspicuous place where they were left exposed. The French Missionaries of that district immediately sent a messenger to their Bishop here conveying the bad news. The French Consul took immediate action to protect his countrymen there and dispatched the gunboat *Argus* this morning to the scene of the murder. The American Consul is investigating the affair.

I am informed by Queen Taotai that two Chinese gunboats have been dispatched to Linchow. Commodore Chew is on board one of them.

Our Canton correspondent, writing on the 3rd inst., says:—No further particulars have reached here concerning this affair. The French gunboat *Vigilante* left this morning; but I am informed that no vessels of the River-gunboat's size can reach Linchow.

The following is a translation of the Chinese version of the affair as published in one of the local papers:—

"The Linchow people are very superstitious and believe in their Gods. On the 28th the feast of the God of Fire was celebrated near the American Mission Hospital and the place was very crowded. The doctor of the hospital, an

American Missionary, interfered with the proceedings on the ground that the noise was annoying the patients in the hospital. The natives were greatly dissatisfied. While the crowd was discussing the matter with the doctor, it was found that one of the joss images had been thrown down. This caused the people to become wild with anger. The bad characters present, seizing this pretext, set fire to the hospital, the church, the mission house and several of the houses occupied by the native Christians. They massacred five of the foreign members of the mission. The authorities were unable to calm the people's anger. This news reached Canton two days ago. Viceroy Shum immediately dispatched two gunboats and a large force of troops, called the Sheung-Pi-Kwan soldiers, under the orders of Expectant Prefect Tsui-Cheung-Fui, to Linchow to restore order. An English and a French gunboat have also gone there to protect the Christians. The American Consul who was in Hongkong to recruit his health has immediately returned to Canton. It is said that the French Consul here has received a despatch from the Mission saying that the Catholics are quite safe."

ANOTHER WOUNDED.

Our correspondent adds (4th inst.) that a Chinese-American citizen recently returned from Honolulu, native of Linchow, was severely wounded in the melée. The American Consul-General here has not yet received any official despatch from Viceroy Shum regarding this massacre. Taotai Wen has called on the Consul several times and had lengthy interviews. The Taotai informed the consul, *inter alia*, that Viceroy Shum will shortly send the Consul a dispatch with full particulars. It is said that the victims were not killed in the hospital but that they were found in a cave on one of the neighbouring hills whither they had fled as soon as it was seen there was danger. The victims were dragged out of their hiding place and butchered. The bodies were thrown into the canal close by the hospital and the heads exhibited on poles. It is also said that some members of the mob made speeches over the heads of their victims in one of the hospital halls. A boycott committee was recently established in Linchow a few days only before this sad affair took place. The U. S. Consul here, I am told, repeatedly warned the Viceroy of the danger of allowing this movement to spread, adding that in view of the excited state the people were in, the slightest incident might cause bloodshed. On whose shoulders will the responsibility fall?

I telegraphed yesterday that the U. S. gunboat *Callao* was to proceed to the neighbourhood of Linchow; this was incorrect. The gunboats at present here are: U.S.S. *Callao* and *Monadnock*; German, *Elter* and *Tsingtau*; English, *Moorhen*; French, *Argus*. The *Argus* is said to be leaving for Samshui and the North river.

NOT A BOYCOTT AFFAIR.

DETAILS INDESCRIBABLE.

Our Canton correspondent writes:—The details of the massacre, as given by the two members of the mission who escaped, are too horrible to be reported. The mob appears to have shown the fiendish cruelty characteristic of such Chinese fanatics. The actual details will, I suppose, never be published.

The Enquiry Commission is expected to start to-day. Wen Taotai, the Viceroy's deputy in foreign affairs, called at the American Consulate to discuss matters with Mr. Lay.

It appears that the origin of the affair had no connection with the boycott. Dr. Machle admits this, declaring emphatically that he had heard nothing of the boycott at Linchow. This statement corroborates the local official's report.

Dr. Machle is a thorough Christian in this matter, taking a fair and impartial view of it.

China is still China. The Government has approved the suggestion of the Board of Commerce and has issued instructions to all provinces that in future any gentry or merchants selling concessions to foreigners or entering into any contract with them will be treated as if they had sold Government property and punished severely.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

Messrs. A. E. Burkill & Son's Circular, dated Shanghai, October 28th, 1905, states:—The Home markets are Firm. Good Killing is quoted in London at 12.3 and in Lyons at Fcs. 34. Raw Silk.—There is nothing doing. Yellow Silk.—A small business has been done. Hand Filatures.—Nothing doing. Steam Filatures.—There is no business to report. Tussah Filatures.—A small business has been done. Waste Silk.—Business has been on a small scale but the tightness of money is making the dealers more reasonable in their demands. Among the settlements are:—125 piculs Honan Waste I at Tls. 79 for whole bales, 200 piculs Honan Waste II (good) Tls. 33½ whole bales, 250 piculs Curlies I at Tls. 75, and 500 Piculs Tussah Waste Fcs. at Tls. 22.

CANTON, 21st October, 1905.—6th Crop.—The estimated number of bales available for Export of this crop vary between 8,000/9000; the colour and quality are very good. Long-reels.—During the earlier part of the fortnight Holders began to lose confidence, then a sudden and large enquiry from Europe made the market more active and firmer. The fines sizes and "Natives" have continued in market favour, finding buyers at full prices. At the close exporters do not appear so keen, and further business is checked by the steady advance in Exchange. From sales made we quote: Fres. Kun Wa Lun 9/11, from \$920-\$305 according to crops; On Wo Hing 9/11, at \$915; Kai Lun Cheong 9/11, at \$905; Wah Foong 9/11, at \$900; Shun Shine 10/12, at \$887½; Meen Cheong 10/12, at \$80; Yu King Cheong and Wing Po Cheong 10/12, at \$870; Tsung Wai Hang 11/13, at \$870; Kwong King Yuen 13/15, at \$810; Shun King 16/18, at \$780; Wai King Wo 18/22, at \$760; Victoria at \$750; Best 3me. ordre 11/1315-14/18, at from \$732½ up to \$742½. Short-reels.—Have been in more demand at low rates, which certain reelers have shown some disposition to meet. Fils. Kwong Wo Hing 14/16 and Miu Lon King 14/16 have fetched \$845. Waste Silk.—As most buyers have withdrawn from the market, prices have declined, and now business is stagnant. Lately, local values are quoted easier from the country, but still rule much above the ideas of exporters, chiefly for market Extra unopened, Pierced Cocoons and Punjum Books.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 11th November.

Quotations are:—Allow'ce net to 1 catty.

Malwa New	\$1080	to	—	per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1140	to	—	do.
Malwa Older	\$1180	to	—	do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1250	to	—	do.
Persian fine quality	\$1150	to	—	do.
Persian extra fine	\$1200	to	—	do.
Patna New	\$967½	to	—	per chest.
Patna Old	\$970	to	—	do.
Benares New	\$947½	to	—	do.
Benares Old	\$950	to	—	do.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 2nd November, 1905, states:—What with the advance in silver, and consequent enhancement of sterling rates, and the rapidly depreciating value of the popular currency, the Copper Cash, owing to the indiscriminate way it is being coined and issued all over the Country, the financial situation is fast approaching a crisis. The authorities have had ample warnings without heeding them, and each avaricious Viceroy or Governor has been allowed to work his own sweet will and flood the Country with token coins, on which they make more than a hundred per cent. profit! The distress that has already resulted is the real cause of the present depression in commercial circles. The Foreign Banks, who do not handle Copper Cash, seem to treat the matter with a certain amount of supineness, though the harm done must revert on them eventually if the situation is not relieved before long. Some attempt has been made to get the Home Government to stir up the authorities in Peking, but the task seems to be too tough for them—it is certainly a most stupendous problem to tackle—and nothing is likely to be done until

some popular agitation takes place amongst the masses. It is said, but with what truth we are unable to ascertain, that the importation of copper discs will be prohibited after the contracts made prior to the 30th of September have been completed, and we presume that will apply to all parts of China. The harm has already been done, however, and it is almost like shutting the stable door after the horse has gone, for Copper Cash, as measured by these new ten cash pieces have depreciated fully twenty-five per cent., which means that the consumer in the Country has to pay that much more for his retail purchases of goods imported from Foreign Countries. Some of the dealers describe the situation as bad as it was during the Boxer years, and certainly the out-look is no brighter. In fact then supplies were being held back, whereas now they are steadily accumulating, and to such an extent as to seriously strain the storage accommodation. Prospects are unquestionably most gloomy. Whatever benefits to the trade that were to accrue after the conclusion of Peace appears to have been discounted, and competition with what has erstwhile been practically a British and American trade is looming up in an ominous fashion. Only very moderate quantities are being shipped to Newchwang, and, considering that Port is expected to close to Navigation about the 23rd instant, the out-look in that direction is not at all promising. The local dealers seem to think that not more than a further 10,000 packages will be shipped direct, the bulk of which will be American makes, Black Cotton Italians being the only fabric for which there is any demand amongst English goods. Tientsin likewise is taking but little from this, her wants being supplied more and more by direct shipments from the home markets, fostered by the pernicious credit system which seems to be in vogue again. The River markets are in a wretched state, chiefly owing to the derangement of the monetary statutes as mentioned above. The Manchester market appears to be booming, judging by the prices that are quoted in response to enquiries and offers from here. Cotton is advancing, the latest Liverpool quotations being 5.77d. for Mid American and 8½d. for Egyptian, and for the sake of all concerned here it can only be hoped that it will keep up. From New York the only advice we hear of is that Cotton is quoted 10.59 cents. for January. The Yarn market is very quiet, though holders have managed to keep prices up fairly well in face of the firmness of sterling rates of exchange. Business has been on a very moderate scale and stocks of Indian spinings are piling up, especially No. 10s. Local Yarns are being cleared satisfactorily. Japanese are likely to show a steady falling off owing to the growing tendency to establish importing houses at all the open Ports for the reception and dispensing of direct shipments. Cotton is by no means strong, the demand for Japan keeping very moderate, while, on the other hand, large quantities of American and Indian are said to have been contracted for by that country. Very favourable reports are expected, shortly to be published by the Local Mills, the shares in which have appreciated considerably in anticipation.

AMOY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

NOVEMBER 7TH, 1905. List of the principal goods passed through the Amoy Custom House from 28th October to 3rd November, 4 p.m., 1905:—

IMPORTS.	
Goods	QUANTITY
Cotton Raw, Indian	pls. —
" " Native	" 188
" " Yarn	" 1,197
Shirtings, Grey	pcs. 2,160
T-Cloths	" 2,610
Shirtings, White	" 2,485
T. Red Shirtings	" 167
Drills	" 231
Shirting Dyed, Brocades	" 154
" Dyed	" 545
Damasks	" —
Camlets	" 88
Lastings	" —
Spanish Stripes	yds. 775
Lustres, Figure	" —
Lead, in pigs	pls. —
Tin in slabs	" 161
Iron, Nail rod	" 21
Quicksilver	" —
Iron, Old	" 97
Ironwire	" 30
Rice	" 21,350
Opium, Patna	" —
" Benares	" 54
" Persian	" 9
" Malwa	" 1

Goods	QUANTITY
Opium, Szechuan	" 71
" Yunnan	" 21
" Kiangsu	" 4
Sesamum Seed	" 639
Sapanwood	" —
Sandalwood	" 19
Rattans	" 53
Wheat	" 6,811
Flour	" 2,222
Beancake	" 1,972
Beans and Peas	" 5,322
Bicho de Mar	" 196
Mats Tea	pcs. —
Oil, Kerosine American	gal. —
" Sumatra Bulk	" —
Coal	tons. —
Tobacco Leaf	pls. 155
Vermicelli	" —

EXPORTS.

Goods	QUANTITY
Sugar, White	pls. 107
" Brown	" —
" Candy	" 778
Hemp Bags	pcs. —
" Sacking	" 14,950
Paper I Quality	pls. 621
" II	" 212
Tobacco, Prepared	" 92
Kittysols (umbrellas)	pcs. —

HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 11th November, 1905.

Apricot	\$26 to	—
Borax	\$15	\$17
Cassia	\$13½	\$19½
Cloves	\$20	\$36
Camphor	\$128	—
Cow Bezoar	\$120	\$150
Fennel Seed	\$8	—
Galangal	\$3	\$5
Grapes	\$18	\$20
Kismis	\$20	\$22
Glue	\$25	\$27
Olibanum	\$5	\$17
Oil Sandalwood	\$270	\$375
" Rosa	\$50	\$160
" Cassia	\$100	\$150
Raisins	\$11	\$12
Senna Leaves	\$4	\$9
Sandalwood	\$23	\$29
Saltpetre	\$12½	—

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, Nov. 1st, 1905:—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 35.75
Do. Seconds	" 31.75
Buffalo hides, Best Selected	" 18.00
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white color	" 50/55
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	" 8.50
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or	
Poochi	" 12.00
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	" 10.50
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" 18.00
Jute	" 4.50
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	" 9.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchew	
and/or Macheng	" 8.70
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" 8.25
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" 11.90
Animal Tallow	" 11.00
Gallnuts, usual shape	" 17.80
Do. Plum do.	" 19.00
Tobacco, Tingchow	" 9.50
Do. Wongkong	" 12.50
Black Bristles	" (nom.)
Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck	" " "
" " Wild Duck	" " "
Turmeric	" " "
Sesamum Seed	" 8.70
Sesamum Seed Oil	" 8.00
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	" (nom.)
Wood Oil	" 9.50
Tea Oil	" 10.00

Per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, sailed on 4th November, for London:—278 half-chests tea (from Amoy), 3 cases silk, 100 bales waste silk, 10 packages tea, 50 bales raw silk, 2 packages sundries, 6 cases Manila hats, 506 rolls mats and matting, 7 cases effects, &c., 3 cases cigars. For Gibraltar:—2 cases silk goods, 1 case cigars. For Manchester:—53 bales waste silk. For Milan:—20 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—185 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—59 packages tea and 1 box spare labels (from Foochow), 6 cases feathers, 165 bales raw silk, 250 packages tea, and 1 case embroidery.

Per P. & O. steamer *Socotra*, sailed on 8th Nov., For Rotterdam:—100 bales hemp. For Manchester:—50 bales waste silk. For Marseilles:—4 bales human hair, 9 cases porcelain. For London:—60 sacks gum copal, 1,316 bales hemp, 50 half-chests tea (from Foochow), 1,218 boxes tea, 204 rolls mats and matting, 1 case ginger, 40 cases bristles, 177 bales waste silk, 278 bales canes, 4 packages sundries, 124 packages wet ginger and 2 cases bedsteads.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 10th November, 1905. — The Shanghai Races, and the King's birthday holidays have accentuated the dullness of a nearly stagnant market, and the little business we have to report shows a further tendency to weakness in nearly all stocks. The continued rise in the sterling rate of exchange, and the tightness of money among the Chinese, remain the chief causes of the present weakness and dullness. Exchange on London 2s. 0½d. T.T.

BANKS. — Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled fairly steady during the week with sales at \$910, but at time of writing a tendency to weakness is apparent, and lower rates seem likely to rule in the immediate future. The market closes at \$910 sellers, London £93 10s. 0d. Nationals unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES. — Unions have found further buyers at \$760, but close quiet with probable sellers at that rate. Cantons continue neglected but steady at quotation. China Traders have changed hands in small lots at \$91 closing with buyers at that rate. Yangtze and North Chinas unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES. — Hongkongs remain on offer at \$340 without inducing any but a small business, while Chinas have declined to \$88 with sales and sellers.

SHIPPING. — Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been on offer during the week at \$26½, but we have no business to report. Indos have been practically out of the market with only a very small business to report at \$94. Douglases are enquired for at \$32, but shares are firmly held and the small demand remains unsatisfied. China and Manila and Shells continue neglected, and Star Ferries fail to find buyers at quotations.

REFINERIES. — China Sugars continue quiet, but a small business forward at an equivalent rate to \$220 cash is reported. At the time of closing cash or settlement shares are obtainable at \$218. Luzons have sellers at quotation, but we have no business to report.

MINING. — No change or business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS. — Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, with a few shares offering, and no buyers, have further receded to \$179. Kowloon Wharfs have found buyers at \$109, and more shares could be placed at the rate. At \$109½ however shares are obtainable to a limited extent. Farnhams have ruled fairly steady between Tls. 140 and Tls. 142. New Amoy Docks unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS. — Hongkong Lands have been enquired for in a small way at \$126½ but no shares seem to be available, and at the close buyers are willing to pay \$127 without however bringing out shares. Kowloon Lands are wanted at \$40, but we have no business to report. Hongkong Hotels have been in demand during the week and sales have resulted at \$148½ and at better than equivalent rates forward market closing with buyers at quotation. Humphreys, with a few shares on offer, have receded to \$12½ sellers.

COTTON MILLS. — Ewos have slightly improved to Tls. 55; we have nothing else under this heading to report.

MISCELLANEOUS. — China Borneos have declined to \$11½ without business. Green Islands have found buyers at \$99½. Watsons, after sales at \$13½, have declined to \$13½ with sales and probably a few more shares could be placed at the latter rate. China Providents have improved to \$9.25 with buyers and Dairy Farms show some firmness at \$17½. Electrics, both old and new, have been enquired for at quotations, but no shares seem available.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100, buyers
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$910, sellers London, £93.10
National B. of China	£5	\$38, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$11½, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$9½
China Provident	\$10	\$9½, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 55, buyers
Hongkong	\$10	\$14½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 45
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 60
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 250
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$17½, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
Farnham, B. & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 112
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$109, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$180, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$17
Shanghai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 197½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$27, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$25, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$29½, sales & sel
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$175, buyers
Do. New	\$5	\$15, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$94, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$215, buyers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$148½, buyers
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$50	\$235
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$152
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$14, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$330, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$88, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$91, sales & buy.
North China	\$25	\$340, sales & sel.
Union	\$100	Tls. 90½, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$760, sales
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$127, buyers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$12½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$40, buyers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 122
West Point Building	\$50	\$55, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Tes. 250	\$490
Raub	18. 10	\$3½, buyers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$6, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$218, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$14½, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$19, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$32, buyers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$26½, sellers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$10	\$94, buyers
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	25s
Do. Preference	\$10	28. 10s.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$32, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$25, sellers
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$50	\$50
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$20, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$8, buyers
Do. New	\$3	\$7½
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$36
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Watkins.	\$10	\$6½, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$13½, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9
Do. Founders	\$10	\$160

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co., of Shanghai, in their Share Report for the week ending the 2nd Nov., 1905, state:—The past week has not been distinguished for any particular activity, and with the exception of a rise and corresponding drop in Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat Shares, and a slight recovery in S. C. Farnham, Boyds, there is nothing of particular interest to report. The October settlement took place on the 30th, and although some losses were sustained, a satisfactory settlement was made. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/9. Banks.—H. & S. Bank. No business reported. The Hongkong quotation is \$907.50 sellers, and the latest London quotation is £92.10.0. Marine and Fire Insurance.—North Chinas have been placed at Tls. 91.50 and 90 ex-div., exchange, 73, both sales to Hongkong. Yangtze Insurance Co. A small lot have changed hands at \$172.50 with further sellers at this price.

A single transaction is reported in China Traders at \$90, Ex. 73. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas. A very meagre business has been done at Tls. 68 and 67 for October, and Tls. 69½ for December. No other business reported. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyds. The market opened at Tls. 140 for October and Tls. 142 for December, receding on the Settlement Day to Tls. 138 for October and Tls. 139 and 139½ for December. After the Settlement the market strengthened to Tls. 140 for cash, while the forward rate has improved to Tls. 144 for December. There is very little business doing. S. & H. Wharf Co. remain in demand and with but a little business have improved from Tls. 190 cash to Tls. 192½, with buyers at Tls. 195 for December. Yangtze Wharf & Godowns have been placed at Tls. 190 cash with further buyers. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—A single transaction is reported in Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. Shares at Tls. 9.75. Weihaiwei Golds are still in demand at \$9. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have changed hands in small quantities at Tls. 122. Industrial.—Ewos have improved to Tls. 56 cash at which rate there are buyers, and Tls. 56½ for November has been paid. Laou Kung Mows have been done at Tls. 60 cash and Tls. 61 for December. Soey Chees have been dealt in at Tls. 252½. Gases have buyers at Tls. 125. China Flours. A few shares have changed hands at Tls. 85, and there are further buyers at this figure. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkats. As usual we have seen a very variable market which it is impossible to keep accurate track of. The market opened weak with transactions at Tls. 232½ and Tls. 230 cash, Tls. 232½ and 235 for October and Tls. 240 to 236½ for December. Just before the Settlement slightly lower rates prevailed, namely, Tls. 230 for October and Tls. 235 for December. After the Settlement, however, on the 31st October shares were rushed up from Tls. 240 to 247½ cash, and Tls. 250 for December with buyers. The following day with equally little reason the market dropped to former rates, namely, Tls. 240 cash and Tls. 242½ December, at which rates the market closed. It is extremely difficult for brokers to follow these heavy fluctuations, and for operators it is exceedingly dangerous. Stores & Hotels.—Hall & Holtz. We hear of a small business at \$26, but unreported. Central Stores. There are sellers at quotation. Astor House. There are buyers at \$28. H. des Col. A few shares can be had at Tls. 18½. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have changed hands at Tls. 56½. No other business reported. Loans & Debentures.—No business reported.

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 13th November.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/0½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/0½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	255
Credits 4 months' sight	259
ON GERMANY.—On demand	207½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	49½
Credits, 60 days' sight	50½
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	151½
Bank, on demand	151½
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	151½
Bank, on demand	151½
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	71½
Private, 30 days' sight	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	99½
ON MANILA.—On demand	99½
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	7 p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	121½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1½ p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	1 p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	61½
SEVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$9.80
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$52.20
BAR SILVER, per oz.	29

FREIGHTS.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 46/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 41/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (via Suez) 82/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York (overland):—Tea G. \$1½ cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tels 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

November—

ARRIVALS.

- 3, Battenhall, British str., from Moji.
- 3, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 3, Helene, German str., from Swatow.
- 3, H. Menzell, German str., from N'chwang.
- 3, Lucia Vittoria, Italian str., from Saigon.
- 3, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
- 3, Tamin, British str., from Manila.
- 3, Tourane, French str., from Marseilles.
- 3, Trigon, Dutch str., from Sumatra.
- 4, Amara, British str., from Chinkiang.
- 4, Hecor, British str., from Liverpool.
- 4, Hopsang, British str., from Kuchinotzu.
- 4, Ischia, Italian str., from Bombay.
- 4, Oregon, U.S. cruiser, from Amoy.
- 5, Arabia, German str., from Portland.
- 5, Fooshing, British str., from Pakalongan.
- 5, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 5, Hanyang, British str., from Canton.
- 5, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 5, Pingsuey, British str., from Liverpool.
- 5, Progress, German str., from Newchwang.
- 5, Sungking, British str., from Cebu.
- 5, Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Amoy.
- 6, Eiger, Norwegian str., from Canton.
- 6, Hedwig Menzell, Ger. str., from Sourabaya.
- 6, Namsang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 6, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
- 6, Triumpa, German str., from Shanghai.
- 6, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
- 6, Vorwarts, German str., from Hoihow.
- 7, Callao, U.S. gunboat, from Canton.
- 7, Hermann Menzell, Ger. str., from Canton.
- 7, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Machaon, British str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Prinzess Alice, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
- 7, Rugia, German str., from Singapore.
- 7, Socotra, British str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Wosang, British str., from Canton.
- 7, Wuhu, British str., from Newchwang.
- 8, Charterhouse, British str., from Samarang.
- 8, Fame, British torpedo-boat, from Amoy.
- 8, Foochow, British str., from Wuhu.
- 8, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 8, Hainan, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 8, Handy, British torpedo-boat, from Amoy.
- 8, Hecla, British special t.-b., from Amoy.
- 8, Otter, British torpedo-boat, from Amoy.
- 8, Palermo, British str., from London.
- 8, P. R. Luitpold, German str., from Bremen.
- 8, Rio Lima, Portuguese g.-bt., from Macao.
- 8, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
- 8, S. Kraetke, German str., from Hamburg.
- 8, Thyra, Norwegian str., from Kuchinotzu.
- 8, Virago, British torpedo-boat, from Amoy.
- 8, Whiting, British tor.-boat, from Amoy.
- 9, Ataka, British str., from New York.
- 9, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
- 9, Celtic Chief, Brit. str., from Philadelphia.
- 9, Eastern, British str., from Australia.
- 9, Glaucus, British str., from Liverpool.
- 9, Heim, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 9, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
- 9, K. Park, British str., from Chingwanto.
- 9, Senegambia, German str., from Foochow.
- 9, Waihora, British str., from Singapore.
- 10, Daigi Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
- 10, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
- 10, Manica, British str., from London.
- 10, Rose, British bge., from West Australia.
- 10, Tean, British str., from Manila.
- 10, Brand, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
- 10, Otta, Norwegian str., from Proboling.
- 10, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
- 11, Atholl, British str., from New York.
- 11, Dagmar, German str., from Bangkok.
- 11, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 11, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
- 11, Korea, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
- 11, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Shahjehan, British str., from Calcutta.
- 12, Carl Menzell, Ger. str., from Natuna Isld.
- 12, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
- 12, Kansu, British str., from Tientsin.
- 12, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 12, Promise, Norwegian str., from Anping.

November—

DEPARTURES.

- 3, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 3, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.
- 3, Helene, German str., for Hoihow.
- 3, Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
- 3, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.

- 3, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Hoihow.
- 3, Tourane, French str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Wosang, British str., for Canton.
- 4, Coromandel, British str., for Europe.
- 4, Hermann Menzell, Ger. str., for Canton.
- 4, Hong Moh, British str., for Amoy.
- 4, Johanne, German str., for Swatow.
- 4, Segovia, German str., for Hamburg.
- 4, Sultan V. Langkat, Dut. str., for Swatow.
- 4, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
- 5, Amara, British str., for Canton.
- 5, Aragonia, German str., for Canton.
- 5, Broholm, Danish str., for Saigon.
- 5, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
- 5, Hector, British str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Oscar II., Norwegian str., for Kobe.
- 5, Simongau, Dutch str., for Samarang.
- 5, Tainan, British str., for Yokohama.
- 6, Montcalm, French cruiser, for Shanghai.
- 6, Progress, German str., for Canton.
- 7, Chunsang, British str., for Swatow.
- 7, Fenay Lodge, British str., for Manila.
- 7, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 7, Hanyang, British str., for Chinkiang.
- 7, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
- 7, Keemun, British str., for London.
- 7, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 7, Loyal, German str., for Swatow.
- 7, Madel. Rickmers, Ger. str., for Swatow.
- 7, Manchuria, Amr. str., for San Francisco.
- 7, Taming, British str., for Manila.
- 7, Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
- 8, Callao, U.S. gunboat, for Canton.
- 8, Catherine Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
- 8, Eiger, Norwegian str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Eskdale, British str., for Moji.
- 8, Kentmere, British 4-m. bge., for Anjer.
- 8, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Ping Suey, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 8, Prinzess Alice, German str., for Europe.
- 8, Socotra, British str., for Bangkok.
- 8, Sungking, British str., for Cebu.
- 8, Talisman, Norwegian str., for Sourabaya.
- 8, Trigon, Dutch str., for Canton.
- 8, Triumph, German str., for Swatow.
- 8, Vorwarts, German str., for Swatow.
- 8, Wuhu, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Borneo, German str., for Zamboanga.
- 9, Foochow, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Hainan, French str., for Hoihow.
- 9, Hermann Menzell, Ger. str., for Chefoo.
- 9, Paklat, German str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Prinz R. Luitpold, Ger. str., for Shanghai.
- 9, Rajaburi, German str., for Bangkok.
- 9, Rugia, German str., for Yokohama.
- 9, Shaohsing, British str., for Canton.
- 9, Tjipanas, Dutch str., for Macassar.
- 9, Wosang, British str., for Swatow.
- 10, Arabia, German str., for Portland.
- 10, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
- 10, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Palermo, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Progress, German str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Rio Lima, Portuguese gunboat, for Macao.
- 10, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
- 10, Trigon, Dutch str., for Palambang.
- 10, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 11, C. Diederichsen, German str., for Hoihow.
- 11, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.
- 11, Eastern, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Fooshing, British str., for Singapore.
- 11, Germania, German str., for Chinkiang.
- 11, Glaucus, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
- 11, Hue, French str., for Kwangchauwan.
- 11, Machaon, British str., for London.
- 11, Manica, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Senegambia, German str., for Hamburg.
- 11, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
- 11, Waihora, British str., for Straits.
- 12, Brand, Norwegian str., for Canton.
- 12, Charterhouse, British str., for Amoy.
- 12, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 12, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 12, Hopsang, British str., for Kobe.
- 12, Lucia Vittoria, Italian str., for Swatow.
- 12, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 12, Rajah, British str., for Bangkok.
- 12, Shahjehan, British str., for Swatow.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Tourane*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Pasquet and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Balliste, Mr. and Mrs. Dufour; from Singapore, Messrs. Lotman, Kerfoot Hughes, Haradar, Jas. Judah and Rev. Veron; from Saigon, Sister Angeline and Mr. Grandmaire; for Shanghai,

from Marseilles, Mrs. Le Moan, Mr. and Mrs. Spruyt and infant, Mr. Theis, Miss Lambooy, Messrs. Slaakmuylders, Place, Mr. and Mrs. Handelsman and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Gladin, Messrs. Puget, Robenet, Colman, Le Borsselaers, Vetaire, de Mathon, Cherestrier, Gauthier, Vesmet, Mrs. Niemal and 6 children, Miss Peters and Mr. Lubre; from Port Said, Mrs. Lazarewitch and 8 children, Messrs. Miriango Mohamed Elias; from Singapore, Mrs. Gillan and Mr. Cheeseman; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Dufane de la Prade, Mrs. S. Kershaw, Mr. and Mrs. T. Kershaw; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Comte de Galember and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Anderheggen, Mr. and Mrs. Bocher and child, Mrs. Colomb and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Verisser, Mrs. Lergren, Messrs. Tofer and Denning; from Singapore, Messrs. Boolchind, Benmel, Kohaka and Harillar; from Saigon, Messrs. Frey and Chabolet.

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DEPARTED.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mr. A. S. Guttridge, Mrs. A. M. Whitlow, Miss B. Whitlow, Master Whitlow, Messrs. E. R. Duer, A. M. Nicoll, C. F. Hassellins, Buckley and W. R. Chunyat, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilson.

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